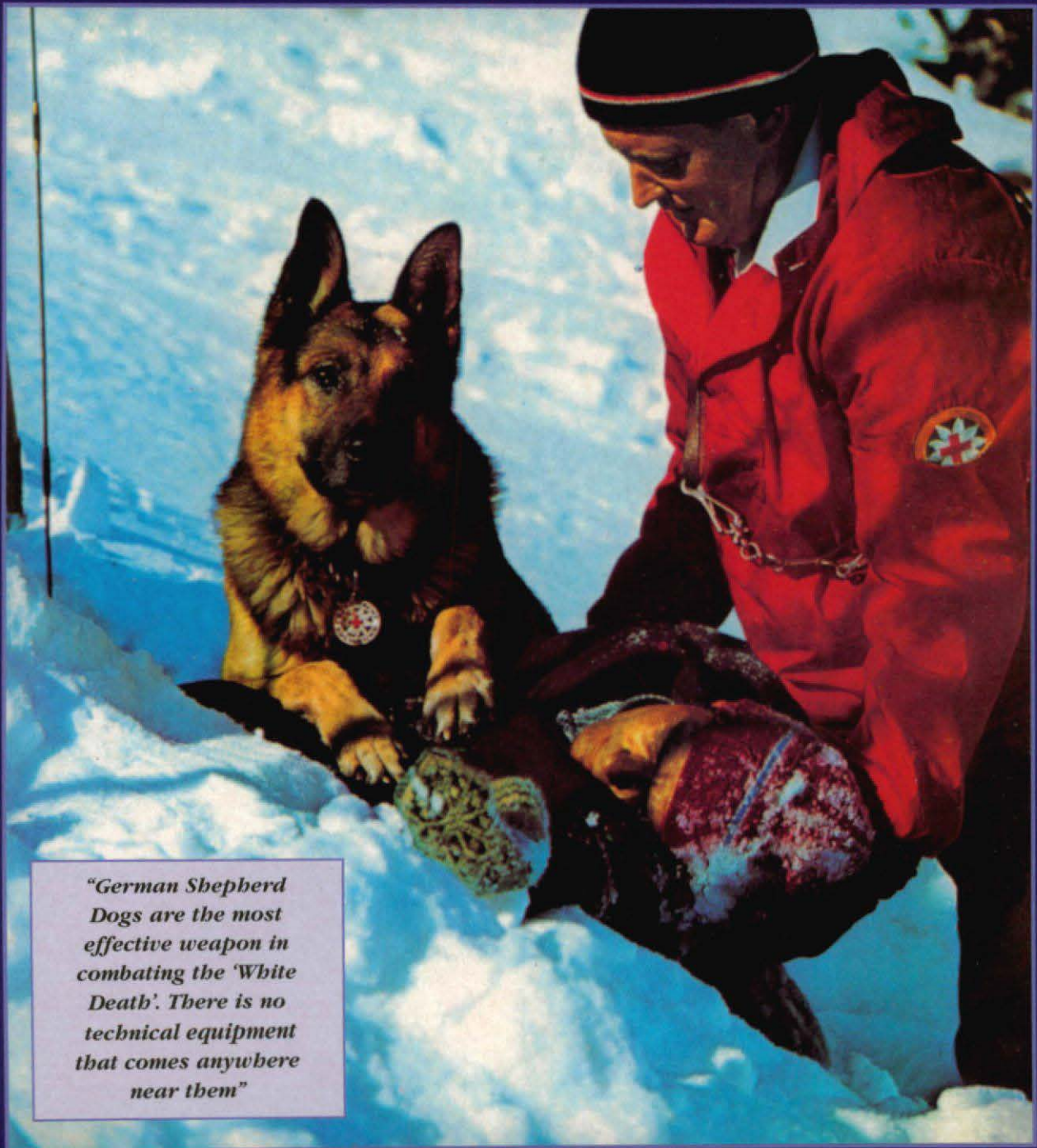


All About German Shepherd Dogs



"German Shepherd Dogs are the most effective weapon in combating the 'White Death'. There is no technical equipment that comes anywhere near them"

by
MARTIN COTTER

*All About
German
Shepherd
Dogs*

By Martin Cotter

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PREFACE

Compiling this book has been a labour of love, over many years, bringing together the experiences of a lifetime spent among animals, of six species, of whom canines, in the form of German Shepherd Dogs, take precedence.

The intention, in an increasingly technological era, is to create awareness and understanding, of the canine population, in general and in particular, by presenting the facts, demonstrate the vital importance of maintaining the German Shepherd Dog, as a viable Utility Dog breed.

The contents are divided into three sections. The first part of the book is historical, how sheep herding dogs came into existence and the German Shepherd Dog breed evolved from them and how the GSD breed so rapidly spread world-wide and has fared during the twentieth century, used and abused. The second part deals with the day to day maintenance and control of dogs. The third and final part is for the dedicated breed fancier intending to, or involved in, breeding German Shepherd Dogs, from the novice breeding a first litter, right up to visiting the Sieger Show. Information on the GSD breed is up to date to the year 2000.

Martin Cotter, Castlewarden, AD 2000.

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BOOK ONE

01 INSPIRATION

A young cavalry officer sat his horse, on a hilltop overlooking the Rhine, close to where, about 70 years earlier, a Prussian army under General Gebhard von Blücher, known to his men as 'Forward', made a crossing of the quarter mile wide river, at the dead of night, to reach Waterloo in the nick of time to save the Duke of Wellington and his Englishmen, from a trouncing by emperor Napoleon I of France.

On this occasion, the generals were just playing at war games. The Imperial Army of the Second Reich was engaged on Autumn manoeuvres, testing the preparedness of their troops for battle, for an implacable foe lay to the West and sworn enemy France was capable of waging war, on the new empire, at the drop of a hat. Ever since the tribes of Germani settled beside the Rhine and fought the legions of Julius Caesar on its banks, they have regarded the river as the last bastion, in the defence of their fatherland. This young man's regiment was part of the forces maintaining the time honoured *Wacht am Rhein*.

Not long out of cadet training and on his first tour of duty, whether he was acting on that day as an umpire, or a scout, went unrecorded and is totally irrelevant, other than his duties caused him to be there and led to an experience, which caused a flash of inspiration which had far reaching consequences. He had ridden up to the vantage point early and with the aid of binoculars was surveying the countryside, with feelings of deep contentment, for it was good to be young and Prussian just then. Since his birth, in 1864, Prussia had ridden the crest of the wave, winning the wars with Austria and then France and leading the independent States into a united German Empire. With their king as emperor, Prussians held a privileged position, similar to that of the English in the British Empire, at the same time, giving them a sense of superiority, by filling the Officer Corps and the Civil Service.

The economy of the new empire had expanded in leaps and bounds, with signs of industry and prosperity on all sides. On the river below, convoys of barges streamed past in both directions and vapour trails denoted the passage of steam engines

hauling passenger trains and longer goods trains, on the newly laid down interstate rail network.

Far to the North, on the horizon, beyond the twin spires of Cologne Cathedral, a murky cloud of smoke and sooty fumes, belched up from innumerable smoke stacks of the Ruhr, enveloped the factories, foundries and mines, where minerals were gouged from the earth and converted into merchandise, as if under a giant catafalque. Industrialisation was taking a heavy toll on the environment of the Ruhr valley and central Germany.

South and East of him, Hessen and Thuringia had less heavy industry and there most of the population still made a livelihood from agriculture and associated trades, in a manner which had changed little in over two millennia, since their ancestors, chiefly the Alamanni tribe, first settled there. Of course the primeval forests had shrunk, giving way to much more land under cultivation.

Agronomy was among the interests of our observer, so it is likely he took a keener interest in the agriculture practised locally, than in the heavy industries, comparing the crops with those back home, in the East. Due to the density of population the arable tracts were intensively cultivated, in relatively small plots, the result of fragmented ownership. For all that they were laid out with customary Teutonic precision. 'Three field' agronomy,

which began at the dawn of civilisation, was still practised. Three crops were grown in rotation and then there was a fallow year, for the soil to rest, resulting in one quarter of the land lying idle. These strips threw up rough vegetation which provided grazing for sheep, provided they could be kept out of the adjacent crops.

The tillage plots were left completely unfenced, unlike the practise in the British Isles of planting hedgerows. Wind breaks were unnecessary in a much less windy climate. The unfenced tradition arose when ploughing was done by teams of oxen. The lumbering oxen required so much room to turn around, if fences were erected, too much land went untilled in headlands.

Farm buildings and workshops of the tradesmen;

blacksmiths, wheelwrights, carpenters, harness makers, etc., to support a farming community, were clustered, with the dwellings, for mutual support and security, in small villages called dorfs.

Sheep farming was a major occupation in the surrounding region and yet he had not seen a single sheep on his early morning ride. During the 19th century flocks were attended, while at pasture, throughout Germany. Unattended animals; horses, cows, goats, even pigs in special leather harness, were securely tethered to picket pins driven into the ground. Sheep were securely penned at night, to protect them from predators, both biped and quadruped. Each morning of the year, rain or shine, frost or snow, the sheep were released and allowed out to food and water. In a manner, which had changed little since biblical times, the shepherd struck out for the nearest 'barbecue', followed by his hungry charges. The shepherds were usually accompanied by a dog, to help prevent the hungry sheep becoming uninvited guests consuming a neighbour's vegetable delicacies, spread out so alluringly unprotected. One dog was adequate, on the open pastures of Bavaria, but here in the Central States, due to the jumble of crops on small

patches of land, each shepherd was obliged to have two well trained dogs. The Hessian shepherds stoutly claimed to have the best Shepherd Dogs in all the world and few, with knowledge of their working conditions, would dispute that claim.

Farther South, on the rolling uplands near the Alps, shepherds led extraordinarily nomadic lives, moving with their flocks, according to the seasons, from the Alpine slopes in Summer, to the banks of the Rhine and Danube in Winter. They slept in cabooses, mounted on pushcarts, that were only 2 m. x 2 m. x 2 m, fitted with a bunk bed, a small wood burning stove and tiny food cupboard. At night their dogs lay on the ground beneath. The flock was penned in a *pferch* constructed with hurdles, which had to be dismantled, transported and re-erected at each new location. An extremely arduous way of making a livelihood, which died out toward the end of the 19th century.

As our observer watched, flocks of sheep emerged from their folds at many points and, hungering for breakfast, set off briskly along the wheel rutted wagon trails radiating in all directions from the dorfs. Jostling six to eight abreast, they moved in long snaking columns. At the head of each col-



Little Bo Peep has found her sheep.

umn strode a ubiquitous figure, in all black attire. *De rigueur* for shepherds was, a black broad brimmed hat, long black military style greatcoat and black pants. Shepherdesses were similarly attired, apart from the pants. As jeans were not yet available skirts were still worn. Accoutrements were, a large satchel slung over the shoulder, to carry lunch and a few hand tools of the trade. A stout staff, called a *schaeferschippe*, was carried in the hand. This was about one and a half metres in length and tipped with a tiny spade and was mostly used as a prop to lean on, when standing with the flock. Very likely it had evolved from the spear, carried by mediaeval shepherds, as protection against predators. The sheep trusted the sombre clad figure and followed, regardless of the wearer being male, or female.

Not every flock emerging had a shepherd in control. There was one flock and hard as the observer looked, he could find no person anywhere near it. It was so unusual it was startling. The young man focused his glasses and watched intently. Perhaps the shepherd was short taken, had an accident, or something. One thing was certain. The owner of those sheep was in for a rude awakening, for not far ahead and right alongside the track the shepherd less sheep were following, lay a plot of sugar beet, still lush and green in mid Autumn, an irresistible attraction to any herbivorous animal. German law lay heavily against the livestock owner, for any damage done to crops. For just one leaf, off one of those beet, the Land Police would impose a fine of one Mark, a day's pay then.

Watching intently he spotted a dog, then another, there were two of them with the flock. Not easily discernible, because they were smaller than and almost the same grey colour as the sheep. This was fantastic. A flock of sheep out in the countryside, in the sole charge of a pair of dogs. Who would believe it? All of the young man's life was spent among horses and dogs and he was well aware of and would never underestimate the intelligence of animals, but never had he witnessed, or even heard of, a display like this performance. He checked around, to see if the dogs were controlled by signals, from a distance, but very quickly concluded that the dogs were acting entirely on their own volition, responding instantly to situations, as they arose. Absent the shepherd may be, but a pair of his dogs were striving valiantly, to keep his mob of sheep under control.

The dogs were of a type that was indigenous in



Dog running a furrow.

the Frankfurt area. He had seen a great many of them since his arrival and been very intrigued by them. They were to be seen performing all manner of chores, guarding buildings and property, running beside crops providing a 'living fence', protecting the poultry; chickens, ducks and geese, from the ravages of the fox and carrion crow and turning the mechanical churn for the farmer's wife. The list was long and of course no shepherd, worthy of the title, was ever seen with fewer than a pair of them. They were barely middle size, alert and restless as monkeys, their erect ears giving them a wolfish, or perhaps foxy appearance, but the resemblance to the fox was certainly not in colour, for almost invariably they were grey, with tan, or yellow gold markings.

Approaching the crop of sugar beet the dog on that flank stepped up his activity and he had need to. The sheep were ravenous, having fasted from the previous afternoon and those beet tops must have looked and smelled appetising. There are rogues in every species and sheep are no exception, even if they tend to follow the leader a lot. A battle of wits developed, which was hilarious to watch, between a few of the rogues and the dog. Waiting until the dog had turned and was going away, a rogue sheep would avail of the opportunity to make a sortie, showing they are not as stupid as they are made out to be. Nothing escaped the dog's attention. Catching the movement with the corner of the eye, pirouetting on the hocks, like a ballerina, then launching into a flying tackle on the would be thief and crashing at full tilt, striking with the shoulder. The impact spun the sheep around and sent it scurrying back into the flock for safety, without ever tasting the tempting prize. The dogs, he learned subsequently, would not punish for a first offence, but when a recalcitrant individual

made a second attempt, then the wayward sheep received a sharp nip from the dog, to teach it the error of its ways.

Hazards, too, lay along the route. It was intersected by a deep drainage ditch, or stream, over which a roughly constructed bridge for wheeled vehicles had been thrown. There was no protection to prevent animals being pushed off and any that were would drown, or have difficulty climbing back out. As they approached the bridge, the dogs took up positions, one on either side, funnelling the sheep onto it in an orderly fashion, ensuring they crossed in safety.

When they reached the correct pasture, one dog barred the way ahead, while the other stood on the flank, forcing the sheep to go around him and make a perfect right angle turn. It was joy to the onlooker's heart, perfect military marching precision. When the entire flock moved onto the pasture it was evident, from their behaviour, the dogs understood perfectly what the entire exercise was about and weren't just performing well rehearsed tricks. They fell back from the sheep, allowing them scope to graze. Relaxed, yet watchful, they hovered a little distance away as the flock moved forward, like an Atlantic 'white horse', across the land. The extent of the pasture was defined by a furrow, left by the plough. The lead dog went ahead and dropped into the furrow and started briskly patrolling it, indicating positively to the sheep that it was *ne plus ultra*. They could come right up to the boundary, but dare

not cross over. When the job was becoming too much for one dog, with the sheep strung out on a broad front, his workmate came around to assist, in compelling the entire flock to make an about turn and head off in the opposite direction, proving they were working in partnership, in close harmony as a team.

As the morning advanced and the sheep had filled themselves the dogs escorted them to a shady place, where they lay down to digest their meal, while the dogs remained vigilant on guard, during the siesta.

The observer was well aware of the intelligence of animals in the canine group, wolves, foxes, coyotes, etc., which enabled them to hunt successfully and survive, despite extermination attempts by man. That was in a different category. The Shepherd Dogs he was watching were performing at a level of intelligence far above that of survival instinct, putting them right at the pinnacle of intelligence. The young man's heart was throbbing, at having made a great discovery. He had fallen in love with the grey Hessian herding dogs. A love that burned in his heart until the last day of his life, over fifty years later. A love that endured through years of opposition, by his own countrymen, against accepting those dogs as a breed and recognising their value, that endured through four years of savagery and mindless mayhem in World War I and the calamitous consequences of severe economic depression and political instability which followed, in its wake. A love that surmounted all opposition, to produce a breed of Utility Dogs, which became legendary well within his own lifetime, for that moment of inspiration led him to found, develop, promote and pass on to us the truly magnificent breed of German Shepherd Dogs.



It took a brave dog to challenge this horny ram.

02 ASCENT, OR DESCENT ?

Like a break at snooker, the "Big Bang" set all the balls rolling, in far greater profusion than sparks from a blacksmith's anvil. Eight billion years later a nucleus of galactic debris built up and attracted interstellar gasses, by gravitation, to rush in and start a nuclear fusion furnace. A new 'bright spark' in the firmament was born, but really only of moderate to low intensity, but we are glad to have it there, for it is our sun.

Lumps of ylem, in assorted sizes, attracted like moths to the flame, swung into orbits, at varying distances from the source of their attraction. Like a family of children, most of the smaller ones stayed closest to mother. Among them planet earth got into third position, then just a ball of gases and minerals in flux, spinning at a giddy rate. About a billion years passed, gradually slowing down the giddy gyrations, before the planet cooled down sufficiently, to allow the constituent elements to sort themselves out, the heaviest going to the core, over which a crust of sedimentary rock formed. Vapour condensed to water, filling the depressions in the crust and finally an outer layer of gasses formed from the lightest elements.

Geology, the study of rocks, through various disciplines of palaeontology, tectonics, etc., has played a very major role in unravelling the mysteries surrounding the age of the earth and the evolution of life on it. This is modern science, for it was as late as 1837, when the French scientist, Jacques Boucher, first challenged the then accepted belief, which Bishop James Ussher tried to bolster up, by calculating from the Bible, that the world was created in the year 4,004 BC. Absolute dating has proved otherwise.

Relative dating was possible, by comparison of fossils from a known period. Radiocarbon dating measures the amount of radioisotope carbon-14, which was acquired from the atmosphere by plants and absorbed into the bones when eaten, which is still present in the organic matter of a fossil. Since the half life, or rate of decay, of ^{14}C is 5,730 years, it became possible to accurately estimate the length of time since that fossil was a living creature, up and leppin' about in the sunshine. However, that method is limited to about one hundred thousand years, a mere tick of the clock in an aeon. Beyond that, absolute dating must be resorted to, by mea-

suring the radioactive decay of naturally occurring isotopes when the rocks were formed. The ratio of $^{40}\text{K}/^{40}\text{Ar}$, as potassium alters to stable argon, will measure the most recent 10 million years. Very slow decaying isotopes of thorium-232 and uranium-238 are used to date rocks over 20 million years. The oldest rocks dated so far are 3.8 billion years old, or in round figures, 3,800,000,000.

The history, or biography, of the earth is divided into aeons, in turn they are divided into eras, periods and epochs, just like years are divided into months, weeks and days, but their time spans are very irregular. Aeons and eras are named for the quality of life in their time spans, while epochs bear the names of the rock formations which occurred at that time. Eras and epochs are divisions of the most recent aeon only.

The Archaean, or Archaean aeon was the first, which lasted for about 1.5 billion years. It is characterised by the formation of metamorphic rock, referred to as pre Cambrian. There was absolutely no life then. The Archaean was followed by the Protozoic aeon, of 'early life', which lasted for 3 billion years, down to 570 million years ago, which puts the age of the planet at around five billion years.



Surfing on Lake Garda, North Italy. (photo Karl Schahinger.)

Life on earth emerged at the beginning of the Protozoic aeon, as protozoans which are found as microscopic bacteria in the earliest rock formations of that time. Algae, amoebae, ammonites and other invertebrate forms of marine life, constitute the fossil remains found in the rocks formed during the more recent part of that aeon.

We are living in the Phanerozoic aeon, the most recent, which covers the time down from the Protozoic aeon. The name means the "Interval of well displayed life".

The Phanerozoic aeon is divided into the Palaeozoic era, "of early life", which witnessed the emergence of Amphibia and transposition of Flora and Fauna, in the form of reptiles, to dry land, the Mesozoic era of 'middle' development and the Cenozoic 'recent' era.

Rock formations of the first epoch, the Cambrian, put a solid foundation under Wales. Cambria is, of course, an alternative name for that wee country. The Ordovician epoch, the second of the Palaeozoic era, also relates to rock formations occurring in Wales. The Ordovicians were a very ancient Welsh race, but certainly there wasn't a trace of them when the rocks were formed. During the third, the Silurian epoch, the rocks formed were mainly shale and limestone and vast coral reefs were built in the oceans. The principal rock formations of the fourth, the Devonian epoch, were sandstone formed in windy desert conditions. The fifth, the Carboniferous epoch, is very interesting, because it was then, 323 - 290 million years ago, that coal measures and oil shale, which provide the fossil fuels so wantonly squandered today, were laid down.

The Permian epoch brought the Palaeozoic era to a close 245 million years ago with an astounding geographical arrangement, the land masses of the globe having drawn together and welded into a single super continent, Pangaea, surrounded by one immense ocean, Panthalassa. The seemingly crazy notion, that the continents went "walk about", was first mooted, in 1912, by the German geophysicist, Alfred Wegener, who suggested the likelihood of the arrangement just referred to. Although his theory was supported by the findings of the Austrian geologist, Eduard Seuss, it was not widely accepted among earth scientists, until as recently as the 1960's. While working in the Alps studying stratigraphy, Seuss observed sedimentary rock, once formed in strata at the bed of the ocean, now warped and twisted at very high altitudes, heaved up by tectonics.

It is now accepted that all the major mountain

chains date from a much more recent time than Pangaea Land. Sceptics of tectonics have only to visit the San Andreas Fault, in California, where scientific measurements are being made as the North American and Pacific Ocean plates slide past each other at the rate of 5 cm (2 inches) a year.

About 200 million years ago Pangaea fractured and split into Laurasia in the North and Gondwana in the South, separated by the Iapetus Ocean. Subsequent convergence, of Africa and Arabia on Eurasia, compressed Iapetus Ocean into the Mediterranean, Black, Caspian and Aral Seas. Laurasia was comprised of N. America, Greenland and Eurasia, but fragmentation continued with Greenland and N. America taking their leave about 80 million years ago and reopening Proatlanta, the ocean they had earlier squeezed out.

In the southern hemisphere vast Gondwana Land developed several fractures and also disintegrated, during the last half of the Mesozoic era, scattering continental plates in all directions, as if by centrifugal force. About 130 million years ago, South America detached from Africa and went West, riding high on the rim of the Pacific Ocean plate, thrusting up the Andes range of mountains.

Africa, yoked in double harness with Arabia, forged North enfolding Iapetus Ocean and bulldozing up the Pyrenees, Alps and Caucasus mountain chains. Butting Asia hard in the underbelly, India made the greatest impression of all, bumping up the fold mountains of the Himalayas, to five and a half miles high.

Australia and Antarctica, detached from Africa in unison, but the marriage didn't last and they divorced and went off, in almost diametrically opposite directions. Antarctica voyaged due South, shedding her cargo of Flora and Fauna under the polar icecap.

Tracking N. E. in the opposite direction, Australia made a 2,000 mile journey to take up her present station, driven by under water volcanic jet propulsion, at the reckless speed of 35 millimetres a year.

During the lengthy Cretaceous epoch, of 81 million years, while the dinosaurs reigned supreme on land, coccolithophores, unicellular marine organisms, secreted phosphorous, in millions of tonnes annually, building up the Downs of the South of England and Northern France, leaving us with the picturesque White Cliffs of Dover.

They were the major physical changes, occurring during the past 5 billion years, which brought

the continents into their present configuration. One more major event drastically affected a large part of the earth's surface, the ice age, which is encompassed in the time frame of the most recent Quaternary era, which began 1.6 million years ago.

The story of life on earth began about three and a half billion years ago. The first stirrings, in microscopic form, occurred in the steamy swamps overlaying the numerous hydrothermal vents in the earth's fractured crust, most likely as archaebacteria producing organic matter by chemosynthesis requiring little, or no oxygen, somewhat similar to the micro-organism, *Thermus aquaticus*, found in the boiling waters of eastern Pacific 'hot vents', which can withstand 350 C.

Carbons, baked in earlier stars, which had exploded, provided ready-made basic materials. Pigments, under the blazing sun, trapped sunlight and the energy converted their molecular structure. The chemical process produced organic matter, the source and succour of all life. Sun worshippers had the right idea after all.

For three billion years life evolved, exclusively through marine creatures, at a rate that was excruciatingly slow. From bacteria and protozoans, to foraminifer, moulds, amoebae, fungi, algae, to ammonites, ostracoderms (crude forms of jawless fish) and then to marine reptiles and acanthodian jawed fishes. Poisonous gasses predominated in the atmosphere. Planet earth, the *terra firma* bit, was still an inhospitable place for higher life forms. There were possibilities and, as estate agents would put it, the planet had 'development potential'. The new house was constructed, but not yet habitable by respiring creatures. The painters and decorators had to go to work and do their bit.

Lagoons slowly shrinking and swamplands drying up encouraged Amphibia to evolve, to live at the water's edge and Flora to adapt to dry land. By the plant process of producing chlorophyll from sunlight, carbon dioxide was taken from the air in exchange for oxygen, which was released in such huge quantities over vast lengths of time that the inhospitable chemical composition of the atmosphere was altered and became sweet and wholesome and agreeable to supporting life in advanced forms. From then on, the cellular structures of living organisms enlarged, from protozoans to multicellular metazoans.

A fundamental stage in the evolution of advanced species was reached, for all things, great and small, had their origins in the protozoans. The earliest

metazoans lived on sunshine soup, chlorophyll plant sugar produced by chloroplasts in the photosynthesis of sunlight, but, as their appetites increased some turned to eating their neighbours and became the kingdom of Carnivora. This parting of the ways and division into Herbivora and Carnivora, occurred at quite an early stage of evolution, when, in the Dublin vernacular, "sets of teeth were gettin' gev out", or the outlay of dental patterns was being established, according to the needs and uses made of them, by the separate kingdoms.

By the end of the Palaeozoic era vegetation had firmly taken hold and during the Permian epoch Flora, in great abundance, grew around the globe supporting a vast population of mainly herbivorous iguanadons. This abundance of vegetation and a mild world-wide climate were primary factors in dinosaurs evolving, in 200 million years, to an incredible size. Brachiosaurus, the largest, weighing about 80 tonnes, stood 40 feet to the top of the head, 10 times the bulk of the present day African elephant. During the Jurassic epoch flesh eating tyrannosaurs evolved. They stood over 6 metres tall on two legs and weighed 10 tonnes. With teeth that were 15 cm long they were formidable creatures.

Later still, during the Cretaceous epoch, a carnivorous group of pterosaurs, which included the ferocious pterodactyls, took to flying to land on top of their victims. They developed membranous flaps along their limbs enabling them to make flying leaps and soar through the air. They were the world's first aeronauts and the precursors, if not the progenitors, of the entire host of avian species flying about the world today.

The supremacy of the dinosaurs lasted for the entire Mesozoic era of 180 million years and then abrupt and almost total extinction, which has aroused much interest and a great deal of speculation, about the abiotic factor which caused it. One theory gaining credibility, is, that the earth was struck by a large meteoroid, which caused so much disturbance, to soil and atmosphere, that the poor old dinosaurs were unable to survive. There may be a much simpler explanation, here put forward. The predatory tyrannosaurs became too efficient and numerous and the dinosaurs, unable to adapt and too big to hide, were hunted to extinction. With their food supply gone and unable to digest vegetation most of the carnivorous reptiles followed the dinosaurs into extinction. Simple self destruction, by over exploitation of the sole food source available to them.



Ready to go walking.



Who's the fairest?



What did you say?.



Look out! A little bird is coming.



Everyone has their hobbyhorse.



Each in their own way.



You lie there



Is this goose-stepping?



Siesta, please do not disturb.



Feel something?

During the Mesozoic era mother nature was young and capricious and indulged her fancies to the full. Some of her creature creations were incredibly bizarre. She toyed with them and losing interest discarded them, like dresses gone out of fashion. There is no way of knowing how many prototypes were tried and discarded for each one that went on the assembly line and endured long enough to be classified as a species. Guestimates put the number of species at about five billion, of which a mere one in twenty thousand are still extant. In the evolutionary process they cannot all survive and, anyway, there is only so much room on the 'bus' and it could not possibly carry them all at the same time.

During the Palaeocene epoch, 65 to 56 million years ago, which began the Tertiary era, very major phylogenesis occurred, as mammals scrambled to supremacy and evolved to fill every conceivable niche left vacant by the departed reptiles. Even marine mammals replaced marine reptiles. Truly, 'the changing of the guard', took place, in very real earnest, during this epoch.

During the Eocene epoch, once the first of the Tertiary era, but now placed second, there was evidence that the very large ungulate group of hoofed herbivorous animals was diverging from the main group of Pachylemuridae. Insectivora had long since branched off from the carnivorous Creodontes. Viveridae, the family of, hyenas, jaguars, cats, etc., were going their separate ways, soon to be followed by the Ursidae, the family of bears, etc.. During the following Oligocene epoch, about 30 million years ago, grass spread across the continents and the family of Bovidae, cloven hoofed animals, was widespread and were assuming forms familiar to us, in their present day descendants.

The northern and southern continents rejoined and what a 'shot in the arm' that must have been for the evolutionary process. Creatures from two hemispheres confronting each other for the first time. It must have resembled an invasion from Mars. James Joyce ran 'thunder', in sixteen languages, into one word, to describe the crash on Wall Street. He'd have to do much better than that to describe the impact of Africa and Arabia on Europe and what about the fender bender India had parking beside Siberia ?.

Opportunities arose for excursions, by raiding parties, into newly opened 'tourist resorts'. Picture the frenzy of species pursued by new predators,

creatures trying to escape while others went after them, to taste them and put them on the menu. Whatever the upheaval was like, one statement can be made without equivocation, the remote ancestors of man and dog did all right for themselves. They were survivor species. The Fauna of Australia were isolated and insulated from this experience and not receiving the imputus to leave it, remained at the marsupial stage.

Evolution is change, an ever ongoing process. Species evolve, through genetic mutation and natural selection, of genetically suitable individuals adapting to environment. They draw apart from their parent group and the difference between them accentuates, until they become separate species. They may thrive better than their antecedents and contemporaries because they have more muscle, can run faster, have better armour plating, more intelligence, improved survival instincts, etc., etc., which serves to give them the edge, that slight advantage, which makes all the difference between survival and extinction. That is, until outpaced by a new superior competitor, struck by disease, or a climatic change they are unable to adapt to, sends that species to oblivion.

Fifteen to twenty million years ago a successful predator named, Tomarctus, hunted around the Arctic Circle. 'Tommy' bestowed his name on the region and became the progenitor of a host of species, including the fruit eating and scent producing civet cat, but by far his largest clan, the family of Canidae, remained carnivorous. The family embraces coyotes, dingoes, dogs, foxes, jackals and wolves.

Tomarctus was contemporaneous with Ramapithecus, the possible anthropoid link between simian and earliest hominids, albeit 'Tommy' was hunting in the snow and ice while 'Rambo' was swinging through the trees in the steaming jungles of the Tropics. 'Tommy' was more catlike than doglike. He walked flatfooted and the five digits on his extremities enabled him to climb trees. Five digits were standard issue, by nature, to a wide range of mammalian species. As the Canidae evolved away from 'Tommy' and his lifestyle, this arrangement proved cumbersome. In a barren landscape the ability to climb trees was no great asset. Running and sprinting, to catch prey, could best be done on the toes, so they got up off the metatarsals and became **toe** walking digitigrades.

The big toes left them 'all thumbs', so the inner digit on all four limbs began to atrophy. By the time

Canis lupus, the wolf, had fully emerged, about 4 million years ago, the inner toe didn't reach to the ground. Atrophying continued, especially on the hind legs, until the inner digit is no more than a token claw, high up on the side of the leg. Thirty years ago large 'wolf', or dew claws, were common on the hind legs of German Shepherd puppies, sometimes doubled, with a sixth claw jutting out like a spur, requiring surgical removal. Selective breeding has reduced the incidence of this problem. In recent years we have bred litters from the 'high' German stock with never a dew claw on them. The 'thumb' claws on the forelegs need not and should **not** be removed.

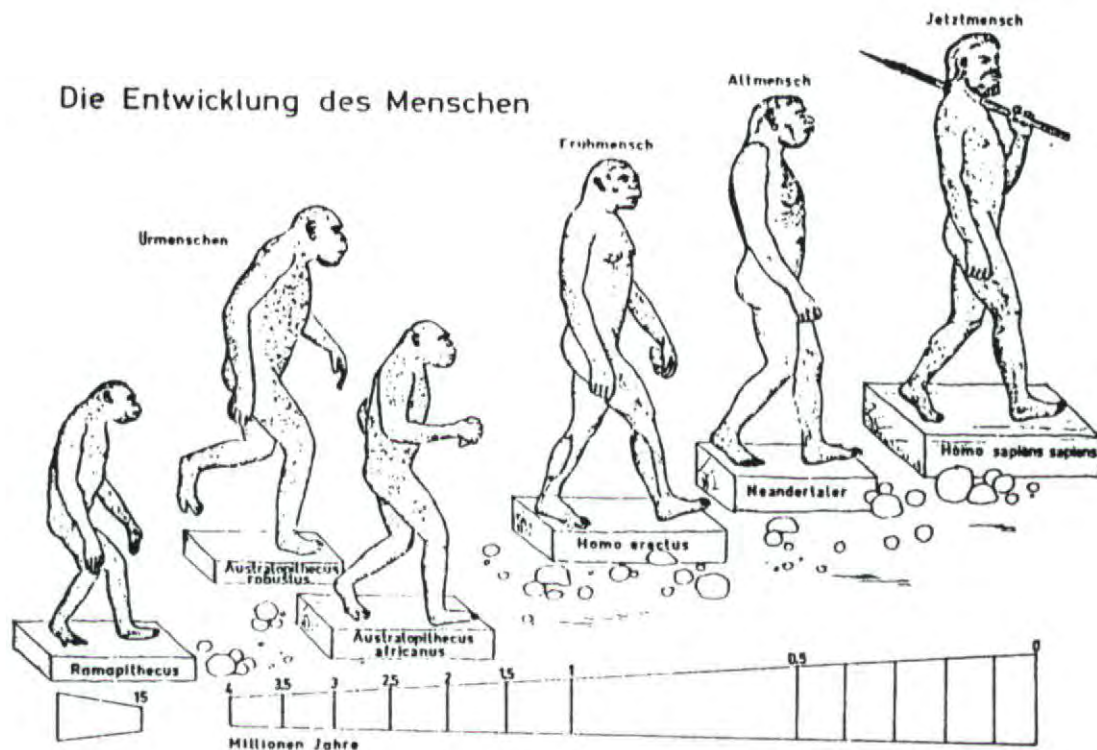
The Australian dingo being numbered among the descendants of an Arctic ancestor requires an explanation. Although the English laid claim to Australia 200 years ago, the Aboriginal Australians had beaten them to it by at least 50,000 years and when travelling there had brought along their favourite canine, the dingo. How otherwise could the dingo have arrived in Australia?. How they got there and from whence they came are intriguing questions. Recent excavations by anthropologists and archaeologists have found evidence of human

occupation 38,000 years ago at dry Lake Mungo and a much earlier encampment 43,000 years ago at Cranebrook, near Sydney, the tribes having traversed the entire length of the continent, from the most likely point of coming ashore.

During the ice age so much water was piled up in ice, much of it over land, that the level of the ocean was appreciably lowered, exposing areas of the sea bed as dry land. The Malaysian Peninsula ran out almost to Java and the Indonesian Archipelago formed an almost continuous land bridge to Timor and New Guinea.

A good part of the Sahul Shelf, which extends two thirds of the way from Australia, may have been exposed at the worst of the cold spell, leaving a relatively narrow strait to float across on rafts. Easy enough, for primitive people to accomplish. For a very long time, Polynesians have known how to survive at sea and make long ocean voyages, on Kon-Tiki style rafts.

Coming from that direction would indicate the Australian Aborigines may well be descended from the so called Java Man, who inhabited that island during the Palaeolithic, the Early Stone Age. They have a wizardry with animals, all living creatures in



Evolution of *Homo sapiens sapiens* = wise wise Man.

fact and have a sort of semi domesticated relationship with the dingo. It is not improbable that that relationship existed when their ancestors made the sea crossing from the Indonesian Archipelago. The animals were not brought along as supernumeraries, or pets, to swell the passenger list, but for a very utilitarian purpose, that of providing a food reserve, kept fresh while still alive. While the fishing was good, both man and dingo ate fish and when there were no fish, man ate dingo. On at least one trip the fishing must have been good.

Anthropogenesis, the study of the origins of man, becomes interesting with the emergence of *Pithecanthropus* and *Anthropithecus*, apelike man and manlike ape, some 15 to 20 million years ago, leading down through *Ramapithecus* to *Australopithecus* and his burly cousin, *Australopithecus robustus*, (sometimes called "nut-cracker man" because of his enormous teeth), who resided in East Africa, about 4 million years ago, where numerous fragmentary remains have been discovered, most notably at Olduvai Gorge, in the Serengeti. They had no connection with Australia, as their names might suggest, the Austral bit merely locates them in the southern hemisphere.

The strongest indications are, that the entire human race evolved through *Homo habilis*, a native of Africa 2.5 million years ago and the first to have the appellation Homo bestowed on. Scions of *Homo habilis* emerged out of Africa and spread to places as widespread as Britain, China and Java. Findings of fossil remains of Peking Man, Java Man and the more recent Cro-Magnon Man in the Dordogne Caves in France support the theory of the widespread dispersal of Neolithic Man before the onset of the ice age.

When the Tertiary Era ended, 1.6 million years ago, two and a half million years of the Palaeolithic, the Early Stone Age, had elapsed and the use of stone tools by widely dispersed primitive hominids was well established. Practise in the use of tools may well have been a vital factor, in the survival of the human race, during the ensuing million, or more, years of the ice age, but this, the most interesting period, in the evolution of two species culminating in modern man and domesticated dog, is particularly sparse in fossilised remains. So much of the action took place, along the fringes of the ice-cap, that no doubt the abrasive action of the glaciers is responsible for wiping the slate clean.

It required the rigours of the ice age, to whittle down and eradicate the forms of life least suited to

survive and replace them with better adaptations. Perhaps as often as twenty times the ice covered the land and then melted away again. When the cold set in the glaciers crept down the mountainsides and across the plains, linking up with the polar icecap spreading from the North. At the severest point most of N. America, Europe and Asia were covered deep in ice. Each encroachment caused a compulsory migration of animals to the South. Overloading the carrying capacity caused stress and intensified the struggle for survival. Dietary habits altered and primitive man developed such a predilection for flesh meat, eaten raw, as to place him in the kingdom of Carnivora, but the use of weapons in hunting and tools in butchery, obviated the need for canine teeth.

During the exodus from Africa, the foraging parties encroached on the traditional hunting grounds, across Europe and Asia, of the Canidae family. Although both predators have shared this common hunting ground, for over a million years, there is no evidence to suggest one ever became the natural prey of the other. That does not ignore, or exclude, occasional opportunistic slaughtering and devouring, of the one by the other, in both directions, which did occur, for during the latter stages of the ice age, Loess Man often sheltered beneath the cliffs of Prodmost, Moravia, that is going on the amount of artefacts and refuse left behind. Among their kitchen middens were the bones of numerous wolves they had killed and eaten. The mammoth, a hairy ice age elephant, was the mainstay of Loess Man, because of the ease of tracking them down and the high yield of meat, for the effort, from each one killed. While the mammoth lasted there had to be a compelling reason for slaughtering wolves, which were much more elusive and difficult to catch.

Perhaps the wolves were stealing stored mammoth meat from the larder and Loess Man found an effective way of stopping them, by dropping rocks on the wolves from the cliff top and then eating wolf chops, to vary the diet when tired of mammoth steaks. Apart from a few infringements like that, humans and canines have managed to co-exist.

Although the earliest origins, of both man and dog, lie together, with all other life forms, vast stretches of their evolutionary paths lay far apart. The weather proof coat of one and the lack of hair by the other, are indicators of that. More conclusive, are the ratios of sugars and fats in milk, for it has

been established there is an indirect correlation of the amounts of sugars and a direct correlation of the amounts of fats, in the milk of mammals, with the severity of the climate in which the species evolved. Seals whelp their pups on ice floes, the coldest place to be, no wonder seal milk tops the table of fats at 25 %. Here are a few comparisons;

	bitch	cow	woman
Milk fats	9.2	3.7	2.7 - 3.6
Milk sugars	3.1	6.3	4.4 - 6.5

Homo erectus emerged in Africa 1.5 mya, just as the ice age began. He mastered the art of igniting fires, by striking flints. Fire would be his defence, from wild beasts, when he withdrew into his cave, for the night. His weapons and tools were crudely made of bone and stone. He hunted across central Europe. Only small fragments of his skeleton have been found, including a lower jawbone at Heidelberg. Herr *Homo heidelbergensis* may not have had a lot to eat, but from there, at least he had a good view.

About 200,000 years ago the Ice Man cometh, named the Neanderthal Man because his first recognised settlement was discovered at the village of Neanderthal, on the Rhine near Dusseldorf. Earlier discoveries, in caves in the Rock of Gibraltar, had gone unrecognised. His burly build befitted him for the rugged climate. For a time he was monarch of all he surveyed, from his cave in the Rock to Asia Minor. With protruding brows and low sloping forehead, his appearance was uncomfortably close to that of ape ancestors. He was a ruthless hunter and relentlessly hunted the mammoth to extinction, before being vanquished and completely exterminated, about forty thousand years ago, by a physically smaller, but far more intelligent adversary.

We have finally arrived at the most recent phase, which produced Modern Man and, *inter alia*, the Domesticated Dog. Exactly where, when and how this all happened is very unclear.

Around 150,000 years ago *Homo sapiens sapiens* emerged in Africa, from intellectually less well endowed forebears. The Wise Wise Man had finally arrived. So great, like New York, NY, they named him twice. His extended family swarmed North across Eurasia, conquering all before them. Their tools and weapons of wood, bone and stone were refined and polished. They had aspirations to a cultured lifestyle and pretensions to art, leaving unsigned works of

some merit, mostly animal life studies, on the walls of their cave dwellings at Lascaux, in the South of France and at Altamira, in Spain.

Just like Neanderthal Man, the tribes of *Homo sapiens sapiens* were ruthless hunters, targeting wild horses, bison, elk and deer. Their favourite slaughtering method was to stampede animals over a cliff. They proved themselves to be dedicated slaughterers of wild life and fellow man and their 20th century descendants haven't altered one iota.

Now we turn to the domestication of the dog. The transition from *Canis lupus*, the wolf, to *Canis familiaris*, which gave us the domesticated dog, is even more obscured than the emergence of Modern Man. The earliest evidence of dogs, which were most likely domesticated, but there is also a chance they were feral scavengers, were turned up in archaeological 'digs' on sites around the Baltic Sea, which were 12,000 to 15,000 years old. A time when the glaciers were pulling in their horns on the last occasion. There can be little doubt that domestication of the dog occurred long, long before that, but the pointers to how, when and where it happened are almost non-existent and very, very thin on the ground.

One popular account depicts a scenario of Stone Age hunters coming upon a bitch nursing a litter. The bitch was killed and eaten and her puppies handed to the children, as curios and playthings. Times were good and food plentiful, so the young dogs were let live and thrived. When food got scarce and Brutus wanted to kill and eat them, his children had grown so fond of their pets that they would endure the pangs of hunger rather than have their canine companions killed and eaten.

All far too simplistic and sentimental, for the real world. In the first instance the savages would have killed and eaten the tender and more succulent brood first and only fallen back on the tougher flesh of the adult bitch, when forced to do so.

By a long stretch of time the dog was the first animal domesticated and it happened while primitive man was still a hunter / gatherer, living from hand to mouth and long before taming and domesticating animals, to provide a somewhat less precarious lifestyle for herdsmen, was even thought of. The bond of loyalty, of the dog to humans, goes far deeper than just being 'tamed', or 'domesticated', as the other animals have been. That loyalty to man lies deep in the psyche of dogs. It is deeply embedded there, as the result of a very lengthy evolutionary process.



'Sheep fold attacked by wolves'. by Petrus de Crescentis Strasbourg, 1494. While the dog (wearing collar) is doing his utmost to protect the flock, the shepherd has flung down his sword while fleeing in terror. The wolf cubs, in the foreground, are awaiting their turn to feast.

Nature has many instances of symbiotic relationships between the most unlikely creatures; sharks have pilot fish, dentist birds clean crocodile teeth, ox peckers rid their companions of ticks (in Africa we watched one pecking away while clinging to the neck of a giraffe). When looked for, clear indications can be found, among our present day breeds of dogs, as to how such a relationship, of interdependence and trust developed, between our ancient ancestors and wild canines. The little Norwegian Elkhound is incapable of inflicting very much injury on the half ton elk, or moose, with its sharp hooves and sweeping antlers, yet for thousands of years, since before the Vikings, the Elkhound has been used to hunt the elk in Scandinavia.

An Elkhound can scent an elk two miles deep in the forest, track it down and engage it, yapping and bounding in and out, until the hunters arrive and dispatch the elk. The timid little Border Collie, often seen on television while working with sheep, in "One man and his dog", is responding to instincts of making "a killing", implanted by feral ancestors in the dim and distant past, who lived by co-operating with primitive human hunters. To the dog, the shepherd is in the role of the hunter when he approaches his flock and standing at the '6 o'clock' position sends the dog to gather them in. Whether sent to right, or left, the dog will run in a semicir-

cle, until just beyond the '12 o'clock' position, before turning towards the sheep, to drive them within reach of the shepherd, for him to deal with them. Were he a hunter, it would be to kill them. A Border Collie will carry out that manoeuvre without being trained to do so, because it is deeply embedded in instinct acquired from ancient feral ancestors who collaborated with primitive man in the hunt, so as to obtain a share of the offal when the chase ended successfully.

From the days of *Ramapithecus*, an arboreal creature living mainly on fruit and nuts in the Tropics, hominids have gone through drastic changes of habitat and diet to emerge at the end of the ice age as *Homo sapiens sapiens*. This new and more intelligent species had evolved to cope with the rigorous conditions. Equipped with improved weapons and skilled in their use resulted in a formidable opponent and skilled, if wasteful, hunter.

Drawing the skins of animals around themselves, to protect against the bitter cold, the hunting hordes pressed farther North, into regions where the wolf had roamed unopposed, increasing competition for stocks of food animals. Weaker canines got pushed aside and out of the packs, but managed a meagre existence following in human footsteps and cleaning up the bones, offal, vomit and excrement left behind by the superior species. Those animals posed no great threat to the humans, who hunted and slept together in troops too large to be attacked, even by packs of wolves, which in turn were too elusive to be easily caught. Living in a twilight, or buffer zone, these outcasts, rejected by their own kind would, ere long, become subspecies. Keenly observing human behaviour, because their next meal depended on it, hunting parties would be accompanied, at a respectful distance, in anticipation of a kill. For someone versed in canine behaviour it doesn't take a great stretch of the imagination to see those dogs, call them *Canis lupus minor*, *Canis ferus*, or anything else you like, becoming involved in the chase, knowing there would be a share, however menial, when the quarry was brought down and killed.

Who is to say how long the process took in millennia, or tens of millennia, before our ancient ancestors realised that their canine fellow travellers wished to serve them, for there is not a shadow of doubt that it was the dog who attached himself to man and cemented the relationship, by rendering sterling service. Barking, to give warning, was part of that service. Wild dogs are not particularly noted

for barking, so somewhere along the way to domestication, dogs acquired the knack of barking, to warn their human companions of approaching danger. A practise which endeared the dog to man, because, especially in the long dark northern nights, man was at a distinct disadvantage, with eyes which had more cones than rods in the retinas, for use in brilliant sunshine distinguishing the ripeness of nuts and fruit. In the darkness, primitive man saw all sorts of ghosts and hobgoblins close around him and was grateful for the presence of the dog, he knew would do him no harm, to give him warning and scare away the spooks. It was for that very reason alone, that the ancient Chinese kept the ferocious looking Chow-Chows.

Dogs, with keen olfactory senses and eyes, which have retinas with more rods than cones, evolved for detection of shape and movement, where colour was not important in the drab Arctic twilight, were equally comfortable by night as by day. The relationship, between dog and man, had become a two way exchange of benefits, heavily in man's favour and, therefore, was set to endure.

The finding of the skeletal remains of the earliest dogs, assumed to have been domesticated, has been mentioned, they were at the sites of the Musseleaters. A way of life not involving hunting or herding, so the dogs were there for either of the following purposes, raised to provide meat (as they have been in the Far East until very recently), or as sentinels. The latter, is by far, the most likely reason for them having been there.

The enormous genetic pool, encompassed in the population of domesticated dogs, which has furnished over 400 recognisable breeds, of every shape, size and colour, from the infinitesimal Chihuahua to the gigantic Irish Wolfhound, could not possibly have emanated from a single source, as claimed in some theories on how domestication of the dog came about. The likelihood is that the process occurred over a very long stretch of time and at many widely separated points, all across N. America, Europe and Central Asia, involving a number of subspecies of wolf and other members of the Canidae family.

It is likely the jackal and dingo species were involved in contributing genetic material, supplementing the subspecies of wolf, and far less likely that the coyote and fox species played any part. Only a detailed analysis and comparison study of DNA of the entire canine family will reveal the degree of relationship and which sources con-

tributed to the formation of *Canis familiaris*, our best friend, the dog. Footnote.

In early civilisations the dog, rightfully so, held a place of honour. The Bundelesh, the legal code of Ancient Persia, imposed very severe penalties on any person found ill-treating a dog. The earliest recorded instance, over six thousand years ago, of dogs with herdsmen / shepherds, comes from the North of Ancient Persia, now Iran. That general area of West Central Asia was the starting point, of the migration westward, of numerous warlike tribes of nomadic Aryan herdsmen, who conquered North Western Europe from the Celts and settled along the Elbe, Rhine and Upper Danube, about 300 to 200 BC, as the Romans were extending their empire across southern Europe.

When the Romans encountered the tribes, they referred to them collectively as, the Germani, because of the common language spoken among them and for a thousand years the noun related to their language only. For centuries the tribes clashed with the Romans, while also providing numerous recruits for their legions. Ultimately they, most notably the Vandals, brought down and destroyed the empire. During the first millennium AD, under various aliases, they spread into Britain, Catalonia, France, Iceland, Ireland, Lombardy and Scandinavia, where they settled and spiced up the local population. Some of the tribes never settled and went on to self-destruct, emblazoning their names large in history.

The settled tribes became civilised and embraced Christianity during the 8th and 9th centuries. Having formed part of a few Western European empires, which rose and fell in the wake of the Romans, they decided to form their own. Their country became known as Germany when they united and formed the First Reich, or empire, about 915 AD. The ensuing stability encouraged the foundation of many monasteries and sheep herding flourished, supplying wool for tapestries, vestments and clothing.

The dogs kept by the nomadic Aryan tribesmen and early Germani village settlers were primarily for hunting and guard duties. In the Middle Ages dogs were also kept with flocks, to ward off attacks by wolves, bears, lynx, etc.. They were brutish aggressive dogs fitted with stout leather collars bristling with strong iron spikes, to protect their throats when fighting and inflict injuries on opponents. As they posed almost as great a threat to the sheep they protected, the practise was to keep them

chained up and release them only when predators were close by, to scare them away, or to engage them in fighting.

From the Middle Ages, all across Europe, large predators have been relentlessly, sometimes needlessly, hunted to extinction and deprived of habitat, by destruction of the primeval forests. As the threat they posed to livestock receded, a transition was made, to a dual purpose dog, gentle enough to assist the shepherd in controlling the sheep and yet, courageous enough to defend him and his flock. The transition brought into existence the sheep dog, in many varieties, from whatever stock was available locally and to match the terrain and such requirements. The common denominator of sheep dogs was, their ability and suitability to work with flocks of sheep. Due to a set of circumstances, peculiar to the region, dogs working with sheep in Central Germany became so good at the work, they justifiably merited the appellation 'Shepherd Dog'.

Sheep herding is closely linked to the seasons, mating occurs in the Autumn and lambs are born in the Spring. End of May the sheep are washed, in preparation for shearing, in early June. This was the

shepherd's harvest, as more sheep were kept for wool production, than for meat, wool being a very valuable crop, around 4 Marks a kilo, in the mid 1800's. A fleece could vary from 1.5 to 5 kilos, but the quality of the wool from one breed of sheep to another and therefore the price paid for it, could range much wider. A master shepherd, or sheep station, could pay a shepherd lad (of any age) a Mark a day, for 365 days a year, to supervise a flock of a few hundred wool producing wethers (castrated males), supply him with dogs, rent pastures, purchase hay and turnips for Winter feed, pay all other outgoings and still make a very handsome profit in a good year.

Washing and shearing were done as a festive occasion, with lots of work for the Shepherd Dogs. Mill races were favoured for washing, like Obere Muehle (= mills) on the Brenz, which flows into the Upper Danube, where flocks were brought from miles around. Three men stood in partially submerged barrels to immerse the sheep until clean. Some sheep did not survive the procedure and were emergency slaughtered on the spot, to save the meat and salvage the skin. Around 1940 the pay was still

9 pfennigs per sheep which amounted to Marks 27 for a flock of 300. Working from 4 a.m. until 4 p.m. they could put through 3 flocks, or 1,000 head, earning themselves a very good day's pay.

All hands, and paws, got involved in the sheep shearing in June, as borne out by the woodcut from the Schaeferkalender for A.D. 1527, which shows the dog eagerly assisting the shepherd to pen the sheep. Note the dog's ears are well rolled down, which was typical for the Schwaben Sheep Dogs, of Southern Germany.

When the first steps were taken, in 1877, to have them officially recognised as a breed, the name adopted was, *Deutsche Schaeferhund*, literally German Shepherd Dog.



'Schafschur in Junii'. Woodcut from the Schaeferkalender for 1527. Note the dog, assisting shepherd, has rolled down ears Schwaben fashion.

* More in 'The Encyclopaedia of the Dog'. Harper Collins.

In summary ;

Archaean aeon 5 billion to 3.5 billion years ago. Totally devoid of life.

Protozoic aeon from 3.5 billion to 570 mya. Beginnings of life.

Cainozoic aeon from 570 mya to now. "Well displayed life".

Palaeozoic era.	570 - 245 mya. Era of "early life".
Cambrian epoch	570 - 510 mya. Algae, invertebrates widespread.
Ordovician epoch	510 - 439 mya. Ostracoderms (jawless fish), algae, vast coral reefs
Silurian epoch	439 - 409 mya. Emergence of anacanthodians (jawed fish).
Devonian epoch	409 - 323 mya. First land plants. Amphibians evolve.
Carboniferous epoch	323 - 290 mya. Reptiles emerge on land.
Permian epoch	290 - 245 mya. Pangaea embraces all continents.
Mesozoic era	245 - 65 mya. Middle stage in the development of life.
Triassic epoch	245 - 208 mya. First trace of mammals. Flying reptiles evolve.
Jurassic epoch	208 - 146 mya. Major changes in life as epoch began.
Cretaceous epoch	146 - 65 mya. Seed plants evolve. Dinosaurs peak and perish.
Tertiary era	65 - 1.65 mya. Mammalian supremacy.
Palaeocene epoch	65 - 56 mya. Widespread proliferation of species.
Eocene epoch	56 - 35 mya. Hoofed condylarthren diverge from Pachylemuridae.
Oligocene epoch	35 - 23 mya. Animals assuming familiar modern shapes.
Miocene epoch	23 - 5.2 mya. <i>Ramapithecus</i> and <i>Tomarctus</i> , 15 mya.
Pliocene epoch	5.2-1.65 mya. Early Stone Age. Wolves numerous.
Quaternary era	1.6 mya - present day
Pleistocene epoch	1.6 mya - 10,000 years ago. Ice age. Evolution of Peking -, Java -, Neanderthal Man, culminating in <i>Homo sapiens</i> and <i>Canis familiaris</i> .

Or to a time scale of 24 hour ;

00.00 - 07.30. Earth's birth pangs.

07.30. Production of organic matter gets under way.

08.00. Protozoa emerge and go to work.

10.00. Fungi, algae turn up late and start work.

14.00. Joined after lunch by multicellular metazoans.

22.30. Coal bunkers and oil tanks filled up.

22.55. Mammalian debut, in a very minor role.

23.00. Pangaea cracking apart.

23.10. Iguanadons trampling vegetation in the original Jurassic Park.

23.40. Pterosaurs zooming overhead scare the dinosaurs to death.

23.55. *Ramapithecus* and *Tomarctus* rehearsing for a midnight matinee.

23.58.40. *Canis lupus* howling from the tundra.

23.59.00. *Australopithecus* and *Australopithecus robustus* roam East Africa

23.59.30. Advent of *Homo erectus* in Africa.

23.59.40. Ice age setting in.

23.59.58. Neanderthal Man glowers from his cave in the Rock of Gibraltar.

23.59.59 One second to midnight. Modern Man and his dog stride to centre stage.

03 THE FOUNDER.

On the penultimate day of 1864, a son was born to Friedrich Wilhelm von Stephanitz and his second wife, Marie, in Dresden, Prussia. The couple were from old established upper class families, indeed the 'von' would indicate noble lineage. They gave the names Max Friedrich Emil to the infant just arrived into that privileged background

The birth occurred slap in the middle of one of the greatest industrial and political revolutions in history. Prussia was rampant, in war and politics. Under the aegis of the king of Prussian, Chancellor Otto von Bismarck embarked on the reunification of the independent German States into an empire, fulfilling the dreams of many generations saddened by six and a half centuries of internecine warfare, ever since the First Reich fell apart, around 1200 AD, after close on 300 glorious years, because the Pope of Rome insisted on being the supreme temporal, as well as spiritual, ruler of Germany.

Dresden was close to the old frontier with the Austro-Hungarian Empire and baby Max arrived, just in time, for the war between Austria and Prussia. The Austrians were also descendants of the Germani tribes, who had followed the Danube South East and settled along its banks. Baby von Stephanitz could not possibly have known that events during that conflict would predispose a situation leading to an incident in his early manhood, which ignited a flaming zeal, that excited and inspired him to the very end of his life. While the Austrians were otherwise engaged, in 1866, Prussian forces occupied the area around Frankfurt am Main and subsequently Hessen joined the German Empire. Concurrent with the political events, an industrial revolution, on a scale never before witnessed, was transforming the backward agricultural economies of the former independent States into a heavily industrialised single economy. The English had industrialised much earlier, but whatever about starting late, when the Germans got going their rate of expansion was truly phenomenal. For instance, Krupps iron works employed just 230 people in 1850 and 23 years later 16,000 workers were sweating it out in Krupps factories, foundries, mines, rolling mills and workshops, helping to make Alfred Krupps the wealthiest industrial baron in the whole world.

It all happened so suddenly. Only 11 years before Max was born an Irishman, William Mulvaney, who left his native country during the Great Famine there, from 1845 to '48, pioneered coal mining in the Ruhr and his contribution is still acknowledged in the Ruhrgebiet. During the same quarter of the century practically the entire German rail network was laid down, matching the political process of reunification, in bringing the States closer together.

The boy, Max, grew up in a world largely filled with dogs and horses. The former were mainly hounds and sporting varieties and the latter were for saddle, carriage and work. He was just about starting school when Prussia was again at war, brought on by the arrogance and vanity of Emperor Napoleon III of France, a nephew of old 'Bony' who hadn't fared too well at Waterloo. A chancer, just like his better known uncle, his life was turbulent. He got himself re-elected president of the Second Republic, by coup d'etat, and a year later he **declared himself** Emperor of France, in 1852. His dispute with Prussia was over jobs for the boys, although European royalists wouldn't see it just like that.

The Spaniards had got tired of their queen and chased her out of the country. There was a job opportunity in Spain, keeping the throne warm. The European Royal Family was so intricately related that the line of succession to any throne, could run to the strangest places. A German prince in the line was attracted to a life in sunny Espanya and applied for the job, submitting his C.V. and verification that his blood was blue enough.

The French had foolishly abandoned the gains of their revolution for democracy, for the dubious splendour of an emperor, who was as vain as a peacock and as arrogant as his upstart uncle, who crowned himself emperor of France and made kings and a queen of his brothers and sister, foisting and hoisting them onto various thrones around Europe. The nephew believed the Spanish throne was within his 'gift' and had a stooge of his own pencilled in for the part. The man in Versailles had a Diplomatic Note conveyed to his opposite number in Potsdam, which had to pass through the usual channels. It arrived on the desk of Chancellor

von Bismarck, who had an ego to match that of the Frenchman, but he was not so vain and far more astute, never letting his bone go to anyone. Emperor Bony III suggested, in his note, that it wasn't such a good idea for this German fellow travelling all that far to Madrid and the Prussian king should dissuade his princely subject from practising the Habanera.

Before passing the note to his monarch, old Otto altered it, not by forgery or addition, he claimed later, just a few deletions, which had the effect of making the note look like a demand, which he felt sure, the Prussian king would have to reject. It worked exactly as Bismarck had expected. King Wilhelm angrily rejected the approach and the matter became public knowledge. The Emperor of France was furious, taking the rejection as a personal insult. His vanity was stung and that is a touchy part of any Frenchman. He demanded a full and complete apology from the Prussians and when that was not forthcoming formally declared war on Prussia, which was a weaker nation than France.

Bismarck was moves ahead, in the grisly chess game being played out. Accurately gauging the mood of the Frenchman, he had secretly issued mobilisation orders for the Prussian Army and was ready, to strike immediately, when the declaration of war came. Four Prussian army corps swept into France, cutting swathes through the unprepared French. After a bloody battle at Metz, they encircled Paris and starved the Capital into submission, during the Winter of 1870/71. Conscious of the misfortune he had personally visited upon the citizens of Paris, Emperor Napoleon courted a hero's death, fighting beside his troops, but was denied. He surrendered at Sedan and died in exile in England a couple of years later, thankfully ending the Napoleonic era. He had initiated and lost the first round of a three round contest. Germany won the first, was defeated on points in the second and received a crushing knockout in the third. Europe, indeed the whole world, has suffered a century and a half of warfare and slaughter, arising from the vainglory and folly of one Corsican family, named Bonaparte, furthering their ambitions by warfare.

Alsace and Lorraine were annexed by the victors in the customary manner, which deepened the hostility between Germany and France. The population was mainly German and spoke a German dialect. In the 4th century, as Rome collapsed, Alamanni and other Germani tribes crossed the Rhine and settled in the two provinces. During the 18th century,

French kings and revolutionaries had, bit by bit, taken over the provinces. So who had the strongest and most justifiable claim to Alsace and Lorraine in 1871?

To really rub French noses in the filth and show them who was boss, Wilhelm of Prussia had himself crowned Emperor of Germany, in Versailles, the palace of French rulers. All in the Roman mode, too, assuming the title of Caesar. Kaiser was how the Germans pronounced it, so he became Kaiser Wilhelm I of the Second German Reich.

The Prussian victory was so spectacularly decisive, over a much more powerful France, that it accelerated re-unification, with Baden-Wurttemberg and Bavaria crowding in, all wanting to get on the winning team. The re-unification of Germany, following that of Italy, added a new dimension to Central Europe. Bismarck shrewdly saw Germany's strength, as her greatest weakness. Fragmented and disunited, the German race posed no threat to the world powers, on either side of her, aggressively expanding their empires, but now united they were a formidable power block, at the heart of Europe. They had demonstrated they could more than hold their own, in single combat, with any one of their neighbours. What the Chancellor feared most was a coalition of 2, or 3, or all 4, attacking simultaneously, with Germany like a nut in a nutcracker.

For the remainder of his term of office, Otto von Bismarck worked assiduously at keeping his country out of conflict, by weaving a veritable 'cat's cradle' of treaties and non aggression alliances with his neighbours, so that young Max grew up in relatively peaceful times. His father died when he was 12 years old, but his education continued at the Gymnasium, in Dresden, where he took his *Arbitur*, which gained entry to University.

Dresden is close to the centre of Europe and could be described as a cross-roads, with people of many cultures in transit through there. It is not uncommon for people on the Continent to have a working knowledge of 3 or 4 languages, but young Max had a facility for learning languages and became fluent in many of them.

His hobbies included natural science. His keen mind sought answers to many questions and led him into geology, geophysics and palaeontology, with particular emphasis on fossilised animal remains. His ambition was a career in agronomy, after completing his military service. With his deep love of animals it was no wonder when he was attracted to the cavalry, which was all horseflesh in



Stockhaarige Schäferhunde aus den 80er Jahren vorigen Jahrhunderts. Besitzer Rittmeister Riechelmann-Dunau.



Schäferhundekopf 1888

Vorfahren des Deutschen Schäferhundes bei Zuchtbeginn



Stockhaariger Deutscher Schäferhund aus den 80er Jahren vorigen Jahrhunderts (Schäfermädchen).



Stockhaariger Deutscher Schäferhund aus den 80er Jahren vorige Jahrhunderts (Stoppelhopper).



Stockhaariger Deutscher Schäferhund aus den 80er Jahren vorige Jahrhunderts (Trutzig).

a. Founding Fathers of the SV. L. to r. Master Shepherd Arnoldt, Capt. von Stephanitz, Master Shepherds Goymann and Weber. Jubilee Show, 1924.

b. Dogs of the 1880's owned by Capt. Riechelmann-Dunau.

c. Dogs bred by the Phylax Society around 1890.

those days. After cadet training he was posted to Frankfurt am Main, in Hessen, where he first encountered the wiry grey sheep herding dogs of the region, who were to bewitch him and cast a spell over him which never was broken, although he encountered a great deal of adversity later on in life.

His next posting was adjutant to the Graf Gessler cuirassier regiment stationed at Cologne and it was while on manoeuvres from there that he was profoundly impressed and completely bowled over by the performance, at work, of a pair of those dogs, who had intrigued him since he came West. Yes, the young officer on horseback on the hilltop near the Rhine, was none other than Max von Stephanitz. His duties that day afforded him an opportunity to observe the dogs controlling a large flock of sheep, just released from their night lairage, along a roadway between unfenced growing crops, to pasture where the dogs controlled the flock in a manner which allowed them to graze comfortably.

The actions of the dogs throughout the morning, indicated that they were in complete control and acting intelligently, both individually and as a team. He came to the conclusion that he had just witnessed a display of canine intelligence superior to anything he had ever before encountered, or heard of, in his wide experience of the species. The scientific side of his nature craved for more information. There was a long string of questions to answer. Was this pair just a 'fluke'? Or were other dogs of this group equally as good? If they were so intelligent, why had their fame not spread to Prussia?

His curiosity grew and grew, for he was enthralled by what he had just witnessed and his imagination was running wild. He began to speculate. What a boon to the Empire, indeed all of mankind, a utility breed of dogs of such calibre would be. An idea had started to germinate in his brain, how a breed of super intelligent dogs could be bred up from stock like this, by matching the best to the best and then selecting only the best from among the progeny. He was a resolute person and when he set his mind to something he carried it through, although it was another dozen years before he could get started and put his ideas into practise. In the meantime he worked constructively on his project.

He first approached the shepherds, the owners of the dogs, to learn more about them. They were sceptical, at first, of a young man in military uniform taking an unusually keen interest in their

dogs. Subservience would not have formed any part of their attitude. Their profession was Guilded, one of the oldest guilds in Germany, and there were few men a shepherd would feel obliged to tip his hat to. Apart from the nobility, master shepherds, who owned their own flocks, were about the most independent and freest men in Europe of the 19th century. From the time of the Crusades they had stood aloof watching armies marching to battles and, from a distance, regarded the rise and fall of emperors, bishops, kings and queens, with equally indifferent equanimity. In their unobtrusive lifestyle they went about their daily chores methodically, without wishing to attract spectators and preferred it much better that way.

Usually reserved, contemplative and quiet spoken, shepherds were highly respected members of their local communities. They took great pride in their profession and, not surprisingly, wore their black uniform with distinction and dignity. There were regional variations, on the pattern of buttons and braid on the greatcoats, which could identify the wearer's State, the way the tartan of a Scotsman's kilt identifies his clan.

Their dogs were as much taken for granted as their sheep, an integral part of their livelihood and part of the general population of dogs in the region. The fame of even the most brilliant herding dog would be very localised. If female, friends of her owner would be delighted to get puppies from her and if male it would be a very great privilege to bring along their bitches for stud service. Possibly the owner of the stud would be offered a selection from the litter. Where the community was largely engaged in livestock husbandry virtually all of the dogs were engaged in herding. Keeping dogs as ornaments, or pets, would be anathema to a rural community, because of the danger they posed to the livestock and, anyway, feeding a useless dog would have been considered a waste of good food by those thrifty people.

The best and most easily trained were employed as herding dogs. Those too thick-headed, the shepherds called them '*Blockenköpfe*' = Blockheads, might still earn a crust performing some of the less demanding chores. Otherwise it was the final curtain. By that rather haphazard fashion, considerable progress had been made, since the Middle Ages, in the evolution of dogs with super intelligence. Dogs good at herding earned a living at it and were encouraged to procreate, those that were not, just vanished.

The shrewd questions von Stephanitz posed soon convinced the shepherds he was not acting out of idle curiosity, but quite genuinely was deeply interested in their dogs. Having established his *bona fides* with them, information was freely exchanged. They volunteered information on training techniques, while he contributed a fresh, more scientific, perspective on the selection of breeding partners. Proof of their mutual respect, coming from so widely divergent social and cultural backgrounds, was the number of shepherds who became lifelong friends of Captain von Stephanitz.

After his tour of duty in the Rhineland, von Stephanitz was transferred to the Capital, Berlin, where there was a world renowned veterinary college, which he availed of the opportunity to attend and study veterinary medicine, the better to equip himself for the task he had undertaken, that of forming an elite corps of Utility Dogs, from the best of the Shepherd Dogs, that would be far superior to the general run of the mill of herding dogs.

During the second half of the 19th century, Europe and especially Germany went through a transformation. Industry drew hordes off the land and into the towns, which sprawled outwards. Considerable areas of land went under housing, mining, factories and railways. New territories, with vast expanses of grazing land, had been developed in North and South America, Australia and New Zealand. The last pair being ideal for sheep farming, in the absence of major predators. There, a shepherd on horseback, could supervise a flock running to tens of thousands of head, while in Germany the most a good shepherd could cope with was limited to a few hundred head of sheep. When chilling was perfected, lamb could be shipped half way around the globe and arrive in mint condition, ready for the sauce of the same name. Finding their profession no longer viable, many European shepherds were forced to abandon shepherding and seek alternative forms of employment and left without sheep they had no further use for herding dogs.

The value of the dogs, their asset to the community, had begun to be recognised and across Europe societies were formed, for the preservation of the local variety of sheep dog. von Stephanitz was almost left standing at the starting post. The Phylax Society was founded, in Germany, on the 16th December 1891. The objectives were in line with those of other breed clubs. GSDs would become another 'fancy' breed, judged on phenotype

superficialities alone, totally disregarding their working ability, their potential for Utility Dog service.

The Phylax Society was bedevilled by the personal rivalries of its two principals, Count von Hahn and Captain Riechelmann-Dunau. Photos of some of the dogs bred by them, namely, Stoppelhopser, Schafermaedchen and Trutzig, are still extant. Within a few years the Phylax Society folded and vanished, almost without trace, thankfully leaving the field clear for the formation of the *Verein fuer Deutsche Schaeferhunde SV* = Society for German Shepherd Dogs, with much better objects, devised to retain and further enhance the specific working ability and talents for many specialised services, which are intrinsically characteristic of the Shepherd Dogs of Germany.

In 1896 von Stephanitz was transferred to the Reserve, with the rank of Rittmeister, or Cavalry Captain. He bought land, 15 morgen in extent, at Grafrath railway station, in Upper Bavaria, where he established his domicile. Soon as he settled in he purchased his first bitch, Freya, and bred her in 1897. He married Marie Wagner, in 1898. She was a showgirl and he was regarded as having married beneath his class. The following year their daughter, Hertha, was born. Her arrival, the same year the SV was founded, must have made him a very fulfilled person, indeed. Hertha shared her father's love for the German Shepherd Dog and became very well known, through her association with the SV. She had one brother, who, apparently, was totally disinterested in the family enterprise, the breed of German Shepherd Dogs. Otto von Stephanitz became a farmer, in the vicinity of Magdeburg. Max von Stephanitz married for a second time in 1916.

At the time of his marriage to Marie, Germany enjoyed continuing economic growth and prosperity. The population passed the 60,000,000 mark and was increasing by three quarters of a million annually. German made products were enjoying, worldwide, a reputation for good design and reliability. German liners on the North Atlantic, partially due to the exodus, through Hamburg, from tyranny in tsarist Russia, were carrying more passengers than the combined fleets of England, France and the US. The graph line of German exports was climbing steeply, while that for Britain was declining, despite having a cornered market in the vast Colonies. Cause for grave international unease.

Princes of trade, in London, were sickening like parrots. Current thinking then was militaristic. They

were of the same opinion as the Prussian officer, Karl von Clausewitz 1780-1831, who in his book, *vom Kriege*/About Wars, published 1833, expounded the theory that war was a continuation of politics and trade, by means of force of arms and not an end, in itself. The intention was to embroil Germany in war, to halt her gallop.

A century later, with so many free democracies around, it is difficult to get into the mood of the times back then. Apart from China and Japan, who were never in the colonial system, and most of America, North and South, which had broken out of it, most of the world was under the dominance of a handful of European rulers. Even tiny countries, like Belgium, Holland and Portugal, had vast overseas territories. Almost all of the European countries were monarchies, ruled by the close knit Royal Family of Europe, who vied with each other in the vastness of their palaces, for flamboyant lifestyles of pomp and ceremony, in surroundings so ostentatious they required the plundering of other lands to support and maintain them. That this elite group, in their greed and avarice, should have disputes and squabbles was inevitable, but the extent to which they exploited and expended the ordinary people, on all sides in the forthcoming war, coldly using them in millions as cannon fodder, in a dispute, which ultimately brought the majority of their crowned heads to a disastrous end, is truly amazing.

Throughout Europe many of the Royal Palaces have become tourist attractions. Daily, hordes of ordinary people trample through the boudoirs and

bedchambers of the once high and mighty, spell-bound by the display of wealth.

Representatives elected to the Reichstag were restricted to domestic affairs. In certain matters the rule of the Emperor was absolute. Foreign policy was exclusively the preserve of the Kaiser and his Chancellor. As Wilhelm II harboured notions of being emperor by 'Divine Right', he was unlikely to listen to anyone, other than the man in the clouds. He quarrelled with Bismarck and sent him into retirement, in 1892.

That was a very sad day for the German people, and a great many others besides, for the vast majority of them, busily beavering away in factories and on farms, failed to realise where they were being led, until it was too late. In 1908, while cruising in the Mediterranean, the Kaiser stepped ashore in Africa to deliver one of his most bellicose speeches. There was uproar in the Reichstag, when it was picked up and reported by the London Daily Telegraph. Dubliner Alfred Harmsworth, media magnate who later became Lord Northcliffe, through his controlling influence on Fleet Street kept the pot boiling and must be apportioned some of the blame for the ensuing conflict. He never missed an opportunity to malign the Kaiser and caricature him as a sabre rattling warmonger and Kaiser Wilhelm II never failed to provide him with copy.

The dye was being cast, for the conflict which would bring the Old Order of empire building to conclusion and ensure Max von Stephanitz would not see his family grow up in peacetime.

04 FOUNDING THE SV.

A dog show had just ended and a small group gathered round to admire the Sieger = Victor, who was at the pinnacle of his show career. They were standing on the green in front of the Rathaus, or City Hall of Karlsruhe, where, as the story goes, a royal named Charles, taking a rest while boar hunting, fell asleep and dreamed of a new city with a unique plan, of streets radiating from the centre, like spokes from a wheel hub, or like sunbeams from old Sol, as Karl saw them in his dream.

He gave the new city the name which means Charles' Rest, which befits the place. It is located just across the Rhine from Strasbourg. The day was 22/04/1899. The dog show, that is, not Karl's sleep. The centre of attraction was a middle-sized dog, with full coat of grey and matching yellow gold trimming. The picture made by the dog and his owner was most impressive. The owner, at 34, was in his prime and an active lifestyle kept his middle build in tip top physical condition. His air and bearing of authority indicated he was accustomed to being in command and unflappable in the public arena, all of which was matched by the dog at his side. Added to that and enhancing it, was the palpable bond of affection and mutual respect between the pair. A picture of elegance and grace in the two species combined, which any artist would wish to capture on canvas.

The dog was classified at the show under *Deutsche Schaeferbunde*, German Shepherd Dogs. The first show entry for this emerging breed, starting to attract attention, but not yet officially recognised as a breed, because of wide regional variations, at a time when dogs were classified largely by phenotype alone, was 22 years earlier, in 1877 and there were less than half a dozen appearances in the intervening years.

Conversation among the group turned to this matter and a suggestion was made to form a society exclusively for the promotion of the new breed. The reaction was quite spontaneous and the owner of champion Horand von Grafrath, for that was the dog's name, Captain on reserve Max von Stephanitz, of Grafrath, Bavaria, assumed responsibility for arranging and convening the inaugural meeting. Those who were present and lent their support to the formation of the new society were;

Architect A. Besser, Berlin.
 Burgermeister Barth, Turkheim
 Schaefermeister A. Ristett (Master shepherd)
 Gastwirt Eiselen, Langenau (Hotelier)
 Fabrikbesitzer Fehr, Winterthur, Switzerland
 (Factory owner)
 Schaefermeister Gaeumann, Klostermannsfeld,
 Saxony (Master shepherd)
 Fabrikbesitzer Kammerer, Vienna, Austria
 (Factory owner)
 Justizrat Oehler, Augsburg (Lawyer)
 Gastwirt Schlenker, Schwenningen, Bavaria
 (Hotelier)
 Schaefermeister Weber, Geussnitz (Master shepherd)
 Rittmeister von Stephanitz and his friend,
 Arthur Meyer, who was to become the first secretary of the new society. He died prematurely less than two years later.
 Herr Eiselen was one of a number of former owners of champion Horand and had sold him on to his present owner.

Not even the most starry eyed among them could have visualised the success that lay ahead, for the project they were setting in train. When they held their 25th jubilee year show, in Berlin, six years after World War I ended, it was the biggest **single** breed show in the world and world-wide the German Shepherd Dog had become the most popular and sought after of all canine breeds. Here is how the society grew;

	Membership.	Dogs registered annually.
1900	60	250 (1899-1901)
1909	2,667	3,000
1919	10,791	26,000
1929	21,892	15,000
1939	11,118	10,000
1949	32,362	41,000
1959	34,436	17,000
1969	47,796	25,000
1979	79,650	29,000
1985	100,644	32,000

Die Präsidenten des SV



Rittmeister Max von Stephanitz, im Amt von 1899 bis 1935



Sanitätsrat Dr. Kurt Roesebeck, Präsident von 1935 bis 1945



Kaspar Katzmaier, Präsident von 1945 bis 1956



Dr. Werner Funk, Präsident von 1956 bis 1971



Dr. Christoph Rummel, Präsident von 1971 bis 1982



Hermann Martin, Präsident von 1982 bis 1994



Peter Meßler, seit 1994 amtierender Präsident des SV



SV Headquarters building, Augsburg.

The society they formed, *Der Verein fuer Deutsche Schaeferbunde (SV)*, has gone from strength to strength and a few years ago membership passed the 100,000 mark. The headquarters are in Augsburg, where extensive offices accommodate 70 employees, who register 32,000 dogs and prepare their pedigrees, handle 15,000 HD x-ray plates and despatch a quarter of a million postal communications annually, along with merchandise and all of the other activities of running the society. From tiny acorns grow mighty oaks.

Presidents of the SV ;

Max von Stephanitz	1899 - 1935
Dr. Roesebeck	1935 - 1945
C. Katzmaier	1945 - 1956
Dr. Werner Funk	1956 - 1971
Dr. Christoph Rummel	1971 - 1982
Hermann Martin	1982 - 1994
Peter Messler	1994 -

The next target is to double the membership, to 200,000. Membership is extended to all devotees of the GSD world-wide. Currently, annual fees are DM

78, which includes bank charges. In return for membership fees one receives the Rules of the SV, a member's lapel pin and monthly, a copy of the SV Zeitung (Times), which is *auf Deutsch*, unfortunately. No doubt a response to strong enough demand would see the inclusion of a section in English. The December issue alone, is worth the fees, it contains plenty of photographs from the Leistungs- and Sieger shows. Colour photos of all the VA dogs, many V's and top SGs from all the young classes. Charts trace every V dog back to Horand. Anyone who wants to get on and ahead in the breed **must** get into the SV.

The address to contact is ;

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D 86167 Augsburg

Phone 08 21/74002-0

Fax 08 21/70 34 89

Web site „WWW.Schaeferhund.de”

05 THE BREED IMAGE

Dog shows began, in England, around 1850 and rapidly became very popular. At first they were for the dogs of the ascendancy, sporting dogs and hounds, but as the craze became international and spread amongst the proletariat, mutts of every shape, size and colour were powdered and coiffured and hauled into show rings. Judging was almost exclusively done on superficialities, height, size, colour, ear carriage, length and texture of coat and the stance, **not** the movement, was very important. Temperament really did not matter, provided the judge wasn't bitten. Very fine delineations and definitions were drawn, as new breeds were invented and existing breeds were subdivided, like Belgian Shepherd Dogs, into 4 separate breeds, simply on coat differences alone. The stock from which the German Shepherd Dog emerged was greatly despised, not least in its homeland, for the great variation in coats and because of inconsistent ear carriage, which varied from region to region. That was regarded as proof positive they were not "a pure breed".

A copperplate by Jacques de Seve, 1744 - 1788, depicts an elegant dog of middle size with erect ears over the title, "Le Chien de Berger", the French name for a Shepherd Dog. The year Seve died, 1788, was the year Spanish Merino sheep were imported into Germany, by Prince Alexander von Ansbach, Bayreuth in Bavaria, for crossing with native breeds, to improve the quality of the wool produced. Merino wool is much finer and the strands have many more crimps per centimetre affording the manufacture of very fine yarn and lightweight clothing in turn.

The name, German Shepherd Dog, had been in use since 1877 and applied to a very restricted number of dogs. What Max von Stephanitz had in mind for the breed, and the SV had undertaken, was nothing short of revolutionary in the canine world,



'Le Chien de Berger' copperplate by Jacques de Seve, 1744-1788.

at the end of the 19th century. What assured the success of the SV and *inter alia* the GSD breed, was that von Stephanitz won the confidence and wholehearted co-operation of the shepherds, the men who knew and understood their dogs like no others did.

Up until then the majority of the most successful dog breeders had been in Hessen, around Frankfurt am Main, now also the name and location of the airport. They were Arnoldt, of Birken Sheep Farm, near Blankenheim; Ehert of Roden, Weber, Geussnitz, in Thuringia and Goymann in

Saxony, his dogs bore the "Klostermannsfeld" kennel name. They were shepherds all. In Frankfurt a fancier gave his own family name, Sparwasser, to the dogs he bred in his kennels, while in Hanau, close by Frankfurt, possibly the best breeder of that era, Wachsmuth, added 'Hanau' to the names of the dogs he bred. Their dogs were small in size, almost always grey in colour and carried their ears erect. They were extremely energetic and in inexperienced hands, tended to get out of control, if not kept hard at work.

The shepherds farther South heard there was a good trade in dogs and learned why their dogs were not in favour. The dogs of Baden-Wurtemberg and Bavaria were larger. They had Mastiff 'blood', which came down from the dogs who accompanied and fought beside the Roman Legions, who garrisoned the area when the frontier of the empire ran from the Rhine to the Danube and then followed the two rivers to the sea. Despite their descent from dogs of war, they were more placid by nature, than the dogs farther North. The let-down was their ears, for that was the way they carried them, well rolled down.

As hanging ears were out of fashion, while erect ears were all the rage, like Betty, in the tongue twister, buying better butter to mix it through the

bitter butter, to make the bitter butter better, some shepherds went North to get something better and mix it in, to improve the situation of the soft pendulous ears. They meant business and were intent on putting things to rights with their dogs, going for the best dogs and bitches available. So it came to pass that a number of select Thuringian dogs moved into Schwabia, the southernmost of the 5 ancient principalities of Germany, to invigorate and upgrade the local canines involved in sheep herding. Leaders in this experiment were ; Schlenker of Schwenningen and Eiselen of, "von der Krone".

The dogs were given new names, which seemed to happen at every change of ownership then. It must have caused nightmares later when trying to establish pedigrees. The practise was later banned by the SV, a dog was given a registered name and number which stayed with the dog for life and no duplicate names were allowed either.

Here are some of the new names ; Fritz v. Schwenningen SZ 20, Max von der Krone SZ 160 and Sali von der Krone (who was not registered) followed by Hektor Linksrhein, who became Horand von Grafrath and of course SZ 1. The registrations took place some time later, of course, because the SV had not yet been founded.

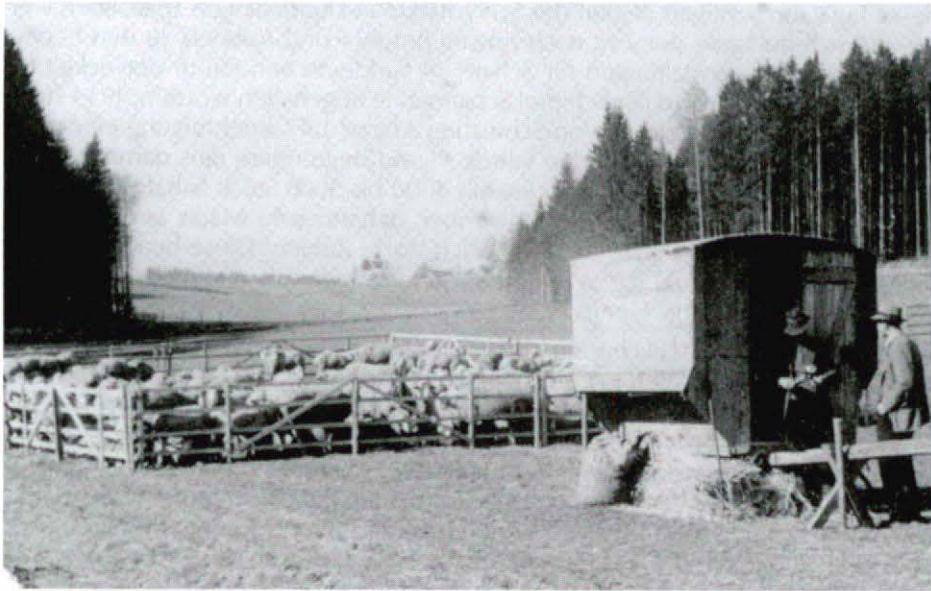
The experiment was a great success, both parties of the marriage contributed much that was good for the other. The central dogs imparted vigour and vitality resulting in tireless energy, while

the placid southern temperaments had a calming effect. Wonder of wonders, the gene for erect ears proved dominant. Now there was established in the 1890's, that was before the SV was founded, the breed image of a German Shepherd Dog with erect ear carriage. Already there was an aristocratic line descending through Pollux SZ 15, from the first Roland of Hanau. How the whole lot came together and distilled into one magnificent specimen is exemplified in the six generations pedigree of the magnificent Hettel Uekermark SZ 3897 HGH. the Sieger of 1909.

The genealogical family tree, which now spreads right around the world, embracing every pure-bred German Shepherd Dog, rises from Horand von Grafrath, who stands over a vast root system of hard working herding dogs, now largely forgotten about. They were the possessors and progenitors of **every** desirable characteristic in the breed today. Selective breeding, carried on by dedicated and gifted breeders, which had nothing whatsoever to do with "fortuitous mutations", has improved the anatomy enormously and thereby the phenotype, but far more importantly has vastly raised the potential to render service. Yet the loyal and true hearts, that beat beneath those handsome exteriors and the intelligent brains behind those alert and friendly eyes, have been transmitted unaltered and unabridged, since their forebears watched over their flocks on the banks of the river Rhine.



An assortment of shepherd dogs, with a flock grazing 'the long acre'.



Schaeferidyll. Shepherd's paradise?.



Sheep washing in the Brenz before shearing, 1940.



Shepherd's harvest. Sheep shearing in June, 1913.

06 STARTING UP

The first year, 1899, was taken up in drafting the Breed Standard of the GSD and drawing up the rules and regulations, as well as the objects of the *Verein fuer Deutsche Schaeferbunde, SV*. In this work, von Stephanitz was ably assisted by his friend and first secretary, Arthur Meyer. When the standard and constitution were ratified and the new society bedded down, the duo turned to establishing the breed stud book, which has become famous. This is the *Schaeferbund Zucht SZ* = Shepherd Dog breed, in which every dog in the breed in Germany, and some from other countries, are registered. The total is now 2,000,000 dogs and all the entries have been put on computer.

They were virtually working from scratch, although records were being kept by the Delegate Commission of the *Deutsche Landwirtschafts-Gesellschaft* = German Farmers Association, in their *Deutsche Hundestammbuch, DHSB*, = German Dogs Stud Book, of a very minuscule group of dogs, placed 1 - 3 at their exhibitions. From their first in 1877, in Frankfurt, until 1901 the exhibition was staged half a dozen times, so the number of dogs recorded really was very small, but von Stephanitz's plan was far more ambitious, than providing dogs for the show ring. Dogs would be recorded in very great detail during a thorough assessment of their worthiness for acceptance for registration and pedigrees were devised to trace their ancestry, degrees of inbreeding relationship decided on, colour codes, etc., etc., all worked out, to present an analysis of every individual dog, for preservation and future reference.

Membership and SZ registrations were growing steadily, so Max turned to the next most pressing matter, that of training. Owners of German Shepherd Dogs, newcomers who did not own, or have access to sheep, required some activities to work their dogs at, for it is part of the German character to do something with whatever they have got, they put structures on their mountain tops and down in their lakes. Incidentally a lake is a 'See' and frequently forms the ending of a registered kennel name.

Training manuals were worked up, in close collaboration with shepherds, whose help and cooperation was invaluable. By trial and error, over many generations, they had evolved training tech-

niques which were practical and worked well and were not a bit mysterious. There were regional differences, for example, where on the sheep the dog was permitted to bite, for the very last thing a shepherd needed was his own dogs inflicting injuries, causing casualties among his flock by biting them in vital areas, or causing tear wounds resulting in fly-strike and maggots, which necessitated a lot of tedious treatment. In the South, the dog was shown to bite high on the shoulder, while in central Germany, where the dogs were smaller, the dog gripped the hind leg, just at the hock, with the full mouth, so that the canine teeth encircled the limb without puncturing the flesh.

Arthur Meyer died on the 29th December 1900. The death, so soon, of his friend and collaborator was a severe blow to Max von Stephanitz, but the crusade to launch the German Shepherd Dog had to be pressed ahead. Following the death of secretary Meyer the headquarters of the SV was moved, in 1901, from Stuttgart to Munich, with Max personally undertaking the work load. Membership had swollen to 275. The first Preis Hutte, or sheep herding competition, was held that year. For a while it was thought that all German Shepherd Dogs must continue shepherding sheep, but that quickly proved to be impracticable. Training in Obedience was undertaken and Police Service Dog training was also begun and, as an inducement, policemen paid reduced fees for membership.

Schutzhund, or Bodyguard Dog, was about the first off farm activity considered. It required a dog that was perfectly disciplined, well adjusted and self-assured with a moderate arousal level. A dog, who would, on his own volition, seek out an intruder and hold that person captive indefinitely, **without** attacking, or causing injury to the intruder, provided the person did not resist, by attacking the dog, or try to escape by running away. Should the owner / handler of the dog come under attack, the dog would spontaneously spring to the defence, ignoring weapons and gunfire. No other breed remotely approaches the German Shepherd Dog in suitability to fulfil the role of bodyguard, in Schutzhund.

The theory and rationale behind the Schutzhund, or Bodyguard Dog, worked out in the SV by Max von Stephanitz, almost 100 years ago,

has become the basis and bedrock of all legitimate training and conditioning of dogs for protection and security work and police service everywhere worldwide. The qualified Schutzhund is light years removed from the “guard dog”, with which it is so often and so erroneously confused.

von Stephanitz was a busy man in 1902. He began the monthly publication of the Zeitung to keep the members informed of activities and produced the first *Zuchtbuch* giving details of breeding done to date. Membership for 1903 was 450, with 10 branch clubs. The first *Leistung Pruefung*, Performance Test, was staged under the slogan, “*Schaeferhund Zucht ist Gebrauchshund Zucht = Shepherd Dog breed is Utility Dog breed*”, stressing the fact that the breed **was not** for ornamentation. Presented in that light, which appealed to the German persona, both the SV and the breed progressed rapidly.

Approaches were made to Oldenburg, offering German Shepherd Dogs to the Red Cross Ambulance Dog training centre there. The offer was rejected out of hand, which was probably the best thing that could have happened, because it spurred members of the SV to do their own training, in rescue work, which was added to the training curriculum. Still it must have rankled, that the director would not accept German Shepherd Dogs offered for free, while he was prepared to pay solid Marks for unsuitable Rough Collies.

Then, as if to rub salt in the wound, a contributor to Hund und Jagd Nr 1= Dog and Hunt, advocated crossing the Rough Collie with the German Shepherd Dog, to **improve** the latter's intelligence. Poor Max came very close to apoplexy, for he was well aware the show fraternity had nobbled the ladie and lassie from the Hielands and tampered with their IQ for working ability, in a misguided hybridisation with the Deer Hound. What could they expect ?. Crossing hound and herding dog breeds, presumably to impress show judges, with a longer and sadder face. The Rittmeister got up on his highest horse to pour cold scorn on the very idea.

Membership grew to 600 and publication of the Zeitung was stepped up to twice monthly, in 1904. It was issued continuously, even through the first great war and half way through World War II, until production ceased in April 1943, due to wartime shortages as the tide turned against the Nazis. Publication was resumed in January 1949.

The second *Zuchtbuch* was issued in 1905 and became an annual after that, keeping members up

to date with the breeding that was going on. With his military background, Captain von Stephanitz saw major roles for his beloved German Shepherd Dogs dressed in military and police uniforms. The empire had many police departments, which he contacted to appraise senior officials of the existence in their midst of those wonder dogs, whose talents eminently suited them for service in their departments.

It is quite simply incredible, that less than 10 years before the outbreak of the first great war, von Stephanitz failed to arouse the slightest interest, in official quarters, in his breed of German Shepherd Dogs. Meanwhile random and very haphazard experiments, by individual policemen, went on with other sorts of dogs. At the beginning of the 20th century the German Shepherd Dog was taboo in German police forces and among government officials in the police and war departments. The city fathers of one town voted 60 Marks, more than a month's salary, for a Rough Collie when they could have filled the assembly room with more suitable German Shepherd Dogs for that amount of money.

In the early 1900's, apart from the shepherds, who made a livelihood working with them and a few hundred fanciers, who were members of the SV, nobody in Germany considered the local Shepherd Dogs to be worthy of the slightest recognition. Twenty years later the German Shepherd Dog had become the most popular breed in Germany. What a breakthrough and turn round of public opinion.

After half a dozen years pounding on solid brick walls, chinks of light began to appear and then it probably had more to do with Polizeinspektor Bussenius's German Shepherd Dog tracking down and unmasking a murderer, in Brunswick, in 1904, (more about that in Police Dogs) than to von Stephanitz's persistent campaign. Anyhow, the breakthrough came about and the German Shepherd Dog was allowed to compete, on a level playing field, with other dogs, for entry into the German police and military services

By 1908 the numbers of German Shepherd Dogs exhibited at shows were exceeding 100. Maintaining the SZ breed register had been a honorary post, held by Otto Kaemple, Jena, but became too onerous under the volume of applications and so Hermann Kestermann Jn., Greiz, was appointed to supervise the register and manage the head office. A position he held until 1914. He fell, a casualty of the great war.

In 1911 registrations in the SZ breed register were restricted to the progeny of parents who were already registered. In effect excluding and drawing away from the 'old stock'. The German Shepherd Dog, of the SV, had become a self contained breed.

The 'old stock' of shepherding dogs still exists in Germany and is thriving. A useful reserve to fall back on, in the event of the German Shepherd Dog breed ever becoming inextricably knotted up. Several were competing against registered GSDs, in Memmingen, in 1989. They were from a separate register, with which I am unfamiliar. A few were even anonymous. The dogs of Karl-Heinz Jahnke, Sudenburg, (picture in colour section page 64), were exceptional, in that both Cita von der Lindenhalle HGH and Onja vom

Ohemoor HGH were Angekoert (Breed Surveyed) and so were all four of their parents who were also all Schutzhund qualified.

After just ten years in existence, in 1909, membership of the SV swelled to 2,667, training in Schutzhund and rescue was spreading, with tests and examinations being held. Police forces were establishing dog training centres and a good proportion of the dogs inducted were German Shepherd Dogs. The breed had finally made it out of the Gotterdammerung, into the full glare of publicity and how well it acquitted itself there, becoming the most popular breed in the world, in a relatively short number of years, we shall learn about in subsequent chapters.

07 “von GRAFRATH”

“von Grafrath” was the name Rittmeister von Stephanitz gave to his kennels. His kennel books were bequeathed by his wife and daughter to the S.V., in Augsburg. By kind permission of the S.V. extracts were made available to the author and translated by him. The earliest development of the breed is bound to prove interesting to many readers.

On his own admission, von Stephanitz was not as successful, as a breeder, as were some of his contemporaries. He did not make the claim, but it is obvious, he bred for the long-term improvement of the breed, while others cashed in on passing fancies.

The books opened with the purchase of a bitch, Freya. She cost a total of Mk 163 and then he purchased his most successful dog, Horand, for Mk 222. An investment of Mk 385. A considerable outlay on a brace of dogs, bearing in mind the average annual income, at the time, was around Mk 500. Both animals were renamed, common practise then on every change of ownership and the cause of much confusion. The registration numbers were added later, when the *Verein* was founded.

Book one, first entry; “Freya von Grafrath. SZ=7, born in August 1894. Breeder, unknown shepherd in Hanau, on the Main. Purchased on the 03/04/1897. Price Mk 150, plus Mk 13 expenses. Description as follows; red-yellow clouded, normal coated. Height 52 cm. Head too heavy, ears bent, mostly carried laid down. Weight 22-23 kg in 1898. Died 11/03/1902. Herzwasser breed, her origins could not be ascertained”.

Freya was bred, once in 1897 to Lux v. d. Spree and four times to Horand von Grafrath SZ=1, in the years 1898 to 1900. Horand was purchased on the 15/01/1898. Remarks on Freya’s progeny; “Ears not erect. head too heavy; One ear erect in pretty position, the other most unfortunately folded, otherwise 1a.; Build, coat, colour 1a, ears small but not erect.; Dissimilar ears in size and position, not erect, head somewhat expressionless.; Slight tendency to ring tail.; Wither heights, male 59 cm, female 53 cm, male 61.5 cm, female 58 cm. Freya’s eyes were operated on in 1898”.

On the 15/02/1898 the dog destined to become

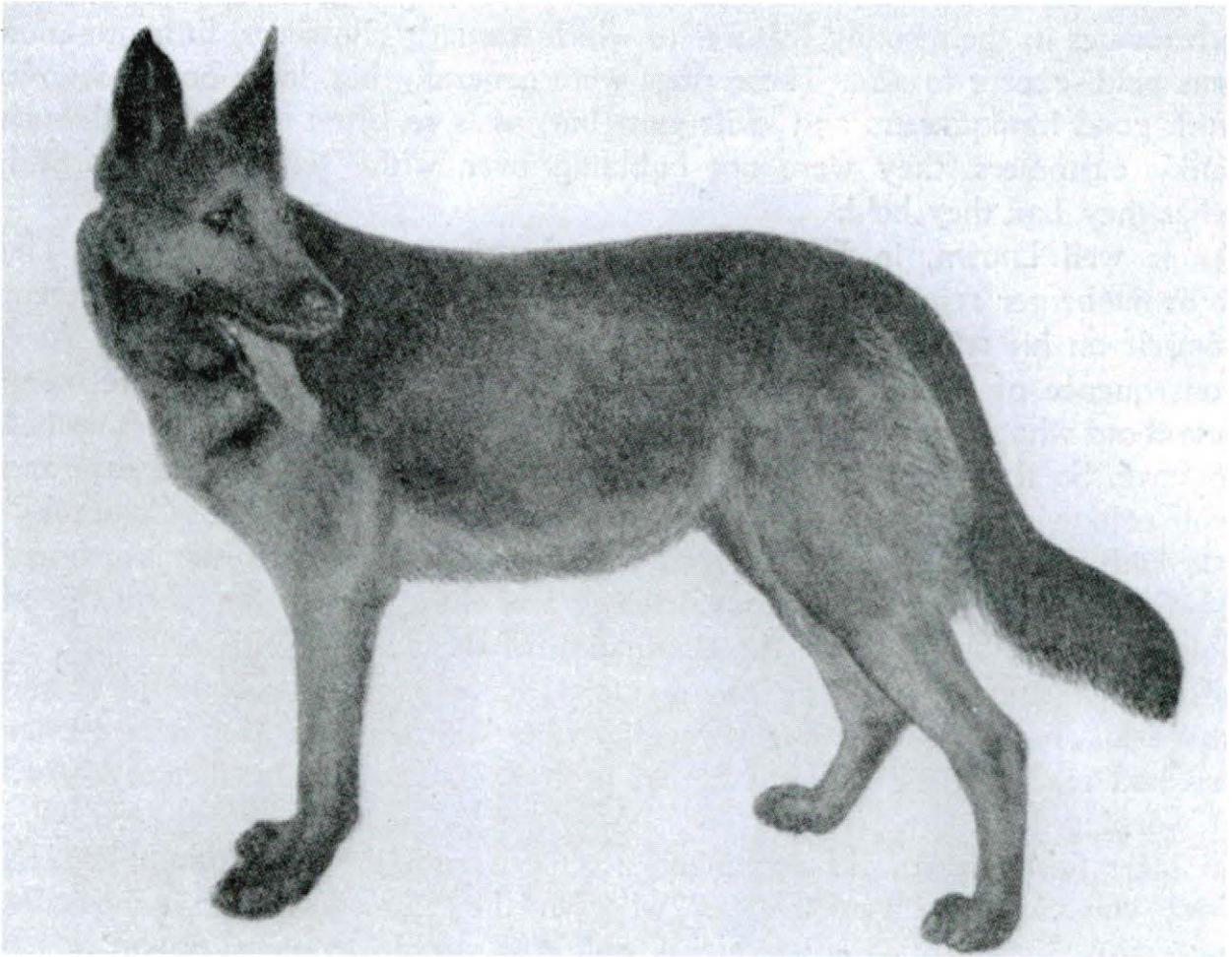
the stem of the great family tree, through which every last German Shepherd Dog, in every corner of the globe today, is descended from, was purchased and proudly installed in the von Grafrath kennels. He’d been known as Hektor Linksrhein = Left Rhine, which would have lent support to the breed being known as Alsatian, **if** he was from the left bank. In fact he came from the Frankfurt am Main area, then the seat of royalty among herding dogs. He was renamed Horand von Grafrath and later had the distinction of being the very first entry in the newly opened Schaeferhund Zucht, abbreviated SZ, Shepherd Dog breed stud book.

Description of Horand, “Date of birth 01/01/1895. Breeder Sparwasser, Frankfurt-Sachsenhausen.. Price Mk 200, with Mk 22 additional expenses. Description; yellow/grey clouded, yellow markings, length of ears 13 cm. In all points 1a. Wither height 60 - 61 cm, length 66 - 67 cm, weight 25 kg at the beginning of 1898”.

Horand had a spectacular show career. His wins are listed; “Wurzburg 1897 Open Class, First Prize. Stuttgart 1898, First Prize Open Class and First Prize Sieger Class, Munich 1898, Open Class Sieger and trophy for best Shepherd Dog, Karlsruhe 1899, (the day the SV was launched). First Prize Sieger Class and trophy for Best Shepherd Dog. Vienna 1899, Open Class First Prize and trophy for Best Shepherd Dog. Trauenstein, Sieger Class First Prize and Bavarian State Prize. Collection Class, First Prize.” Clearly Horand was outstanding and his owner was not hiding his brilliance under a bushel.

The stud book shows Horand was active from 1898 to 1903. In addition to his kennel mate, Freya von Grafrath SZ 7, he mated Gudrun von Grafrath SZ 5, Mari von Grafrath SZ 2, Schwabenmaedle von Grafrath SZ 3, Lotte v. Klostermannsfeld SZ 17, Hascherl von Grafrath SZ 88, Bissula von Grafrath SZ 228, Eva von Grafrath SZ 244 HGH, Grete von Grafrath SZ 287.

“Schwabenmaedle von Grafrath SZ 3. Born 12/07/1898. Yellow/grey clouded with yellow markings, ears erect at 3 and 1/2 months. In build and coat 1a. Tail somewhat too long with tendency to ring. All the children of Freya and Schwabenmaedle have this tendency. Outstandingly pretty head. First heat end of July ‘99. Wither height



Mira von Grafrath SZ 112 HGH. Cross of Central and Southern strains.

52 cm., length 58 cm. Father, Fritz v. Schwenningen SZ 20. Mother, Fides vom Nekarursprung SZ 19".

"Mari von Grafrath SZ 3, yellow/grey clouded, with white spot on chest, white band over toes on both hind legs. Wither height 56 and 1/2 cm. Length of ears 12 1/2 cm. head, coat, build, all 1a, except chest somewhat too broad and eyes somewhat too large.

Alarich von Grafrath SZ 67, born 20/01/1901. Father, Horand von Grafrath SZ 1, Mother, Selke v. Birken SZ 15. One ear erect on the 24th August, the other failed. Let both fall. Normal bite and testes".

"Morolt von Grafrath SZ 96. Father, Horand von Grafrath SZ 1, mother, Lissie v. Schwenningen SZ 96, the Siegerin of 1899. Pretty head, legs too long, small chest, pasterns slightly French when stepping through. Paws hare foot, steep rear, tip of tail half rolled in, but carried well. Given away".

Max von Stephanitz could not be accused of 'kennel blindness'

"Mira von Grafrath SZ 112. Father, Tilly von der Krone SZ 22 HGH. Mother, Lida v. d. Krone HGH Service Dog. Wither height 57-58 cm, weight 23.5 - 24 kg.. Black with yellow markings".



Audifax von Grafrath SZ 368 HGH.

“Wolfhild von Grafrath SZ 145, born 14/11/1901. Breeder, Master Shepherd Arm, Blankenheim Sheep Station. Erected both ears at eight weeks. From the beginning *krepiert* like, because her mother had too many puppies”.

“Eva von Grafrath SZ 244 HGH. Formerly Mante v. Roden. Born 22/07/1901. Parents, Leo v. Geussnitz HGH and Lene v. Roden HGH. Wither height 51-52 cm at nine months”.

Thus far he had relied almost exclusively on his champion, Horand von Grafrath, for stud service. Continuing to do so would result in perilously close inbreeding and anyway the main objective of the master breeder was to form as broad a base as possible for the entire breed. Seeking “fresh blood” among the ‘old stock’ of herding dogs he so greatly admired and loved, he found, purchased and renamed Audifax.

“Audifax von Grafrath SZ 368 HGH. Born 29/10/1901. Purchased from Shepherd Max Schmaden, Passing, Bavaria, on 28/10/1902. Breeder, Alois Birk, Kissing, by Augsburg. Both parents HGH, as are all the grandparents on both sides. Colour, black/yellow, wither height 61-62 cm, length 65-66 cm, weight 28.5-29 kgs. In coat somewhat wavy”.

Audifax was exhibited and these are some of the results; “November 1902 in Worms, First Prize. The same award, under Judge Sparwasser in Salzburg, First Prize. April 1903. Second Place, in a class of 10. August 1903 in Furth, under Judge von Otto, First Prize and trophy”. End of book 1.

In the years 1903 to 1906 Audifax mated Mira von Grafrath SZ 112 and her daughter, Sigrun von Grafrath SZ 252, by Horand and also mated Ingeborg von Grafrath SZ 721, his own daughter. Whether by design, or accident, is not stated. Max may have been hiding his blushes, for accidents happen in the best run establishments.

Stud records show that Audifax was greatly appreciated and much used by other breeders. All of which, taken together with the use made of Horand, had the effect of broadening and reinforcing the good, eminently desirable “blood” of this outstanding duo, namely, Horand von Grafrath SZ 1 and Audifax von Grafrath SZ 368 HGH.

On the 07/06/1906 Falko von Grafrath SZ 2500 HGH, was bought in, but died from pneumonia on the 16/09/06. Undaunted by his misfortune, von Stephanitz searched until he tracked down and found Falko's litter brother, acquired and renamed him; Adalo von Grafrath SZ 2653 HGH. Father, Prinz v. Nekarursprung HGH, his parents, Fritz v.

Schwenningen SZ 20 and Fides v. Nekarursprung SZ 19. Adalo's mother was Barry (yes, Barry) HGH, out of Annie vom Lontal SZ 2063 HGH, Nekar Preis Huetten (sheep herding competition) Siegerin. The pedigrees were lengthening.

Kennel Book 3.

“Adalo von Grafrath SZ 2653 HGH. Standard coat. Red/brown brindled, trained HGH, as were both parents and three grandparents. Big, powerful male. Good build, although tending to French stance, faultless back when gaing, good cut of head, ears and tail good, sure jumper, wither height 60 cm. Reliable personality, sharp but not vicious. Watchful, peaceful with cats, fowl and children. Very great spirit. Died, due to a bone splinter, in 1912”. Quite obviously Adalo was a great favourite of the von Stephanitz family and his loss deeply felt.

At the time when Roland v. Starkenburg SZ 1537, the Sieger of 1906 and again in 1907, was all the rage among other breeders, von Stephanitz



Siegfried v. Jena Paradies SZ 1339 KrH. PH. SH. and Leistungssieger = Trials Champion.

ignored him and twice bred Hildegard von Grafrath to Adalo, thereby closely inbreeding on Audifax and intensifying the genes of HGH (herding) dogs. Further proof, if that were necessary, of his trust in and reliance on, not to mention his admiration and love for the sheep tending stock which was by then being referred to as the “old stock”, was his purchase of the herding bitch, Flora, on 15/02/1909. She was renamed Froda.

“Froda von Grafrath SZ 9047 HGH. Standard coat yellow/grey with black saddle, trained HGH,

as were her parents and grandparents from Wurttemberg. otherwise origins are unknown. Well constructed with good hind quarters, good back, fore chest could have more depth, head well chiselled, muzzle perhaps a little long, ears and tail good. The bitch is from a good source, but shows she was placed too soon with a shepherd. Hungry rearing and hard work prevented attainment of full size and strength. Wither height 55-56 cm, construction sufficiently substantial. Excellent gait work, sure in jumping and clambering. Personality; reliable, sharp, a good watcher, very strong temperament, peaceful with cats and children".

Bearing in mind the Rittmeister's fondness for dogs trained and used for herding sheep, his next purchase looks astonishing.

"Bought, on the 06/03/1913, Irma von der Grafschaft Henneberg SZ 15927 PH (Polizei Hund). Sire, Siegfried v. Jena Paradies PH. KrH. SanH. Leistungssieger (Police -, War -, Red Cross Rescue Dog and Performance Champion !. !. !. Some qualifications). Dam, Wanda vom Schloss Wilhelmstal SZ 10466 PH. A good brood bitch, sufficiently strong, pretty head. Was faultlessly trained, but naturally is restricted here, excellent nose good swimmer, is *verrückt* (mad) on rabbits and cats. Irma was mated by Harry vom Nahetal SZ 25417, son of Tell von der Kriminalpolizei SZ 8770, Sieger, and Lene v. Kirschberg SZ 4725 PH., daughter of Leistungssieger Siegfried v. Jena Paradies". Once again inbreeding for quality on Siegfried.

"25/04/1914 Irma v. d. Grafschaft SZ 15927 PH. produced a litter to Klodobert von Grafrath, son of Adalo and Hildegard". Ever again returning to the best sheep herding strains where his confidence lay. This appears to be the last breeding under the "von Grafrath" banner. World War 1 broke out three months later and now in his fiftieth year the dog breeding Supremo donned his uniform and went on active service.

The last entry for the year 1914 recorded a tragedy. The outbreak of war had afforded greater freedom to a lawless element. In October Irma and her son, Frodo von Grafrath SZ 49997, born the previous October, were both shot by outlaws. On that very sad note the "von Grafrath" kennel books closed, finally, as it ultimately transpired.

What do they reveal, about the man himself and the material he worked with?. Quite a lot. So great has been the improvement, in phenotype and anatomy, of the GSD that today the dogs he bred

would be dismissed as substandard, but let us not forget that every gene producing the excellence that abounds today, was passed down by those very same ancestors and it happened **without** the benefit of "fortuitous mutations", recorded with ridiculous frequency in, This is the German Shepherd, by Capt Wm. Goldbecker and Ernest H. Hart. The vast improvement has been achieved by selective breeding of the best specimens available, practised by generations of skilled breeders, following in the founder's footsteps and **not** by the vagaries of the lottery of mutating genes, for not every mutation produces an improvement, far from it in fact.

Max von Stephanitz was not a great success in breeding champions, or in reaping monetary reward from the breed, choosing not to breed to supply the ready market, for he was primarily concerned with establishing a breed that was pleasing to the eye, but above all else, had strong character and personality, willingness to work and desire to please the humans who owned them.

Faulty ear carriage was a problem which attracted his attention from the start. Lack of size, for most of the heights given are on, or below, the minimum height required by the standard, was a problem that was probably due more to nutritional deficiency than anything else. Certainly genes for large size were around and were exploited, too, when uses other than sheep herding were found. Police interest in the breed, which had been slow to start, had taken off at speed and was providing a demand for large dogs. Breeding kennels meeting this demand were Boll and Kriminalpolizei, so that, in 2 decades from the formation of the SV, von Stephanitz, as breed master, was struggling to hold the line on the maximum for height and keep it to the standard requirement of 65 cm.

His efforts and example convinced many breeders that what was best for the breed, as a whole, was the correct path to follow. As a consequence, our beloved breed has remained relatively free of the preposterous abnormalities man has inflicted on some other breeds, which were once very fine breeds of canines. All who esteem the German Shepherd Dog, in its present format, owe a large measure of gratitude to the Prussian cavalry officer, who dedicated his life to ensuring that the good character and sound, eminently desirable, attributes of the 'old stock' sheep herding dogs was embodied in and perpetuated by the new German Shepherd Dog breed.

08 POLICE DOGS

So widespread is the practise nowadays, that it is scarcely credible that the use of dogs, by police, is a 20th century phenomenon. Not until the SV was founded and after years of urging by von Stephanitz, was the notion given serious consideration in Germany. Isolated incidents had been recorded, of dogs being used against criminals and there were some reports of dogs having helped to solve crimes, but all that went unrecognised and unappreciated by all police authorities.

In 1816, just after the Napoleonic Wars ended, English customs officers used dogs, to some effect, against the South Coast brandy smugglers, who had wasted no time in entering an *entente cordiale* with the old enemy and were doing a roaring trade, as did the Irish national hero, Danial O'Connell, in Derrynane House, Co. Kerry. They opened up their own Free Trade Markets, across the Channel, in spite of the animosity that remained between the royalist English and the republican French.

Perhaps the earliest reference to "police dogs", which wasn't a very commendable one, was in the French port town of St. Malo, Brittany. There the practise was begun, in 1155 AD and ran unbroken for 615 years, of releasing a pack of large and very savage dogs, each night after the curfew bell was rung and the town gates were closed, to roam the streets 'til morning. The dogs were fed and maintained by the fire watch and they were the only people the dogs would respond favourably to. On the 7th of March 1770 a young officer of marines was foolhardy enough to venture ashore, during curfew. He fell foul of the dogs and there was little enough of him found next day, save his buckle and boots. As a sequel, a naval court-martial ordered the destruction of the entire pack, thereby putting an end to the practise. Source ; "Doggenbunde in St. Malo", *Neue Bayerische Landeszeitung*, 24/01/1908, Wurzburg.

Although breeding and showing dogs became very popular in the second half of the 19th century, senior officials in police departments failed to see any relevance, or the potential, for dogs serving with their forces. In a haphazard fashion a few tentative steps were taken, in the 1890's. Belgian police began to use their native Belgian Shepherd Dogs, with a modicum of success. Here and there, a few

German policemen used Airedales; Bulldogs and Dobermans and even incongruous mongrels. Sometimes the constable and his doggy were so comical as to be objects of ridicule and laughter, which wasn't a great boost to morale and encouragement to persevere with the experiment. Looking back from this point it does appear that the greatest impediment to their use was lack of knowledge about dogs and complete ignorance of how to train and motivate them.

When Rittmeister von Stephanitz became interested in Shepherd Dogs and founded the SV, to promote the breed, foremost in his mind was their suitability for use as auxiliaries in police and army service. The amount of apathy and open hostility he encountered, from the senior echelons of both services, is unbelievable, in view of the widespread use they made of dogs during the war, only a few years subsequently. Their conversion was truly a 'road to Damascus' one and it was entirely due to the outstanding performance of German Shepherd Dogs on the battlefields with the German Army.

The town police of Hildesheim was the first force in Germany to employ dogs, that was in 1896, followed by Schwelm and Braunschweig, or Brunswick. The first competitive examination for police service dogs, *Prufung fuer Polizeidiensthunde*, was held at Hagen, Westfalia, in 1901.

An event in 1904 caused an awakening, by the heads of police departments, to the suitability of the German Shepherd Dog for police work. Murder most foul was committed at the goods yard of a large estate and Polizeiinspektor Bussenius, Braunschweig, went along to investigate, taking his large shaggy GSD with him. He brought the dog into the room where the crime had been committed, to pick up the scent of the murderer. After taking a few deep sniffs around the bloodstained bed the dog set off down the stairs to the yard below, where all the staff, male and female, were assembled and were standing apprehensively, in a close group. No one dared to move, as the dog approached and started circling the group, snuffing deeply. The tension was reaching breaking point when the dog started to growl and focused his attention on a particular person. Growling menac-

ingly the dog moved closer to the man, while the rest held their breath, petrified. Then the man's nerve snapped and he made a furtive movement. Instantly the dog sprang and gripping him by the thigh, brought him to the ground. The dog had made no mistake, in addition to the first scent picked up by the bedside and tracked to the man, fear and guilt had made the adrenaline flow in a peculiar mixture and the chemical reaction gave off an odour which the dog recognised. The dog understood the furtive movement entitled him to make an arrest and not let the man get away.

Pleading for the dog to be called off, the murderer made a complete confession of his crime, before everyone right there on the spot. He was sentenced to death and while awaiting execution, told his gaolers he did not fear the gallows nearly so much as he did that bear like dog, with flashing teeth and snapping jaws, which, ever and always haunted him in his sleep. Footnote. An extract taken from, "Die Polizei". Nr 6. 1974

EARLY DEVELOPMENT.

In 1902 the SV published the first manual on service dog training and urged all members to train accordingly. Persistent urging by von Stephanitz, as president of the SV, eventually brought results in the police departments, around 1908, when training centres were established. The first was at Grunheide, Berlin, under Police Major Klein. Imperial Germany was policed in many layers, quite normal for authoritarian States, with Secret Police, Criminal Police, City Police and the Federated States had separate Land Police. Eventually most of them acquired their own dog training facilities.

Bavaria had its first police dog, whisper it, a Doberman, in the town of Bamberg, in 1905. Munich got a *staffel* of 12 men with as many dogs, in 1908 and their own training centre three years later. The concept of the dog assisting the policeman had at last caught on and with customary Teutonic thoroughness, was put to good effect. Dogs of many breeds and mongrels were tried ; Airedales, Dobermans, Rottweilers, Riesen (large) Schnauzers, etc.. But the breed, which had encountered the stiffest opposition, at the inception, went on to overcome all the competition and attain overwhelming preponderance in police service, was none other than the German Shepherd Dog.

Under the inspired leadership of dedicated policemen, like Major Klein, Hauptinspektor



PH Jona and Schutzmann Grosskopf, Hannover.

Leonhart and others, through the scientific research of Prof. Dr. Walter Neuhaus and by Konrad Most, a vast amount of insight, understanding and scientific knowledge about dogs, was built up, which now forms the basis of breeding, selection, training and application of dogs in police service right around the globe.

Soon after World War 1 the Zollamt and Bundesbahn, Customs and Federal Railway, employed dogs for search and personnel protection, to combat the upsurge of criminal activity brought about by the collapse of morale, in post war Germany. Police authorities in other countries became interested and followed the German example, often sending staff members for information and to acquire trained dogs. The pebble Max von Stephanitz had dropped in the pool sent ripples right around the world and in his own lifetime, in almost every country, his beloved German Shepherd Dogs, the breed he had founded and so trenchantly promoted, were fulfilling his wildest dreams, by providing services to all colours of humanity.

The many-sided talents of the German Shepherd Dog, were appreciated wherever they went. Ability to adapt to extremes of climate, from the Arctic to the Sahara Desert, willingness to work, quickness to learn, alertness, intelligence, imperturbability in heavy traffic, impartiality, fearless fighting drive

(whenever called upon), their courage and loyalty and readiness to defend their handlers, at any cost, altogether apart from their pleasing appearance, won them the admiration and affection of countless practical minded, no nonsense service personnel, in many lands, who required a lot to be impressed.

In 1976, while attending the Sieger Show, staged in Bremen that year, our coach group made a day trip to Hamburg. By some tenuous connection we had the privilege of visiting the Hamburg Police dog training centre. This fine establishment is situated in very rural surroundings. There is palatial accommodation for the quadrupeds and the bipeds attending them. After a look at the kennels, each one larger than the average stable, we had a session in the conference room with the officer in charge. Asked about the liability for compensation if a dog bites, the answer was, "The dog is always right". That sounded like it was 'open season' in Hamburg, for dogs biting people, until their training methods were revealed. When a suspect is encountered, during searches, the dog raises the alarm by barking, then constantly confronts the person, to prevent the suspect walking away. Beyond that the dog **must not go**, with an inoffensive person, for the dog must never make an unprovoked attack on anyone, criminal or otherwise, for quite often the suspect is found to be a child, or bewildered person, who is innocent of any crime.

We were treated to a demonstration of protection work. When a handler and his dog were attacked the dog responded convincingly and brought the assailant to a standstill. Hamburg being a major port city, four years earlier in 1972, the police had initiated dog searches for drugs. A trained 'sniffer dog', GSD naturally, was sent to check out our coach. He approached the rear, then went along the side to the saloon doorway and with the forepaws only, climbed the steps until standing almost bolt upright, with the hind paws still on the roadway. Head held high he sniffed around for a second or two. That's all he needed to check out the passenger saloon of a large coach. Dropping to all fours again, he resumed checking the exterior, first one front wheel and then the other. Suddenly he had what he was searching for and was on his hind legs again scratching at a flap, over a filler cap. His handler darted forward, removed the wad of cannabis saturated gauze and tossed it in the air for the dog to play with. That was his reward, a few minutes playing with his toy.

That very year, 1976, and again in Hamburg, they started training *Sprengstoff Suchbunde* SSH, Explosives Search Dogs. They were not the first to engage in that hazardous practise, for during the war dogs were trained to search for explosives. The world-wide depravity, of men using explosives to blow other humans to shreds, in the furtherance of their own dubious political aspirations, is on the increase and necessitates the training of dogs and very brave men in this extremely hazardous occupation.

After World War II the police forces in southern Germany were reorganised, with the assistance of the Americans. In the very disturbed conditions following the war, there was a crime wave, which



Getting it in the - - - ?.

police dogs did much to bring under control. More recently, far from losing out to technology, police dogs are increasingly relied on and with few exceptions the breed is GSD. Proof of the widespread confidence in police dogs was the opening, in 1967, of a training centre near Munich, which cost DM 1,000,000.

The confidence of German police authorities in well trained service dogs is clearly demonstrated by the expansion of numbers and provision of well appointed training facilities, to meet the diversification of roles to be filled, to counter the proliferation of criminal activity occurring in recent times. A confidence that was not misplaced, as the proven successes of dogs in Bavaria will testify. To illustrate, Polizei-Hauptkommissar Franz Breitsamer, Munich Police, supplied the following report.

"a) In the Autumn of 1947 there was a murder, during a robbery in Furth. A renowned and very successful DH (Diensthund = Service Dog), named Rolf, was stationed at Augsburg. He was brought to the scene 17 hours later and had no trouble working the 11 kilometres long track to a district where foreign guest workers lived. There he positively identified the perpetrators of the crime.

b) On the 15/04/1952 in Unterfranken, two deserters from the United States Forces murdered a taxi driver and his passenger and made off in the stolen taxi. They had travelled only 15 km when they were involved in a traffic accident and abandoned the taxi to flee on foot. Four hours later DH Hasso tracked them over lea land, meadow and tillage, across a railway embankment and along roads, to find them in a little, out of the way village. Both GIs were handed over to the American authorities and were sentenced to death by court martial.

c) On Sylvester's Night 1966, a raider broke into a large laundry and dry cleaning establishment, in Munich, searching for cash. Six patrolmen searched the premises with negative result. They were withdrawn and DH Agan sent in alone. In a very short time Agan found the criminal, who had cleverly concealed himself among the garments hanging from the rails. He started barking to indicate his success. Foolishly, the intruder tried to silence him, by striking the dog with an iron bar and got badly bitten for his mistake.

d) A gas explosion at Winzererstrasse 88, Munich, 12/05/72, caused death and seriously injured casualties. Rettungshund (Rescue Dog) Edo, of the Munich Police, was brought directly to the disaster area and there indicated, under the smouldering ruins, where



Explosives searchers.

a little 4 years old girl was entombed. She was rescued from under a metre of rubble.

e) Following a handbag snatch in East Munich, on 18/03/73, DH Basko trailed the thief for a kilometre and a half, during which he found the purse, empty, needless to say. The trail ended at Berg am Laim S-Rail Station, (Beside the Munich venue for Sieger Shows, where the Olympic equestrian events were staged). There the victim of the robbery was able to positively identify the culprit.

f) In Munich's Englisher Garten, (a large park land), DH Bazi found a 17 years old nurse in thick shrubbery. She had taken 40 sleeping pills on the night of the 05/09/73, having decided to end her own life. Her rescue gave her a fresh start.

g) DH Bill achieved world-wide fame through media coverage of the Wienerwald Affair. After the kidnapping of Evelyn, the Jahn daughter, Bill found the ransom that had been paid, 1,000,000 Deutsch Marks, in the Schleissheimer Wald = forest near

Munich, on the 16/11/1973. Of course Bill wasn't interested in the money, just the articles hidden with it.

Despite very many surrounding smells, which could have thrown him off, enough human scent lingered on the articles for him to find them after 24 hours.

h) On the same day, 16/11/1973, in an unbroken duty stint of 12 hours, Bill found 25 kg of hash on a farm located at Bad Tolz.

i) On the 21/11/1973, a brawl broke out and developed into a vicious knife fight between foreign immigrants in a restaurant. Four constables sent there were trapped and helpless until reinforcements arrived in the shape of DH Orlo and his handler. Straining on his leash Orlo rushed in, fearless of the flicking knives and lifted the siege on the four beleaguered officers and quelled the disorder, in less time than it takes to relate.

j) Two thieves broke into a jewellery retail outlet in Munich's main railway station, on the 09/11/1974, and got away with their loot in a stolen car. Having traversed many streets they abandoned the car and split up, proceeding on foot. DH Eggo was set on their trail from the automobile and soon overtook the one who had the entire booty of watches and jewels. Property valued at DM 40,000 was recovered.

k) At a traffic check point in Munich, 01/12/1974, two young thieves were flagged down. Instead they made a dash for it and tried to get away on a moped, but DH Rick was faster when ordered to go after them. He caught and held the duo.

l) On the night of 13/04/1975, a car thief encountered the Law in Nuremberg. He fled on foot into an area of allotments. The whole area was thoroughly searched by several officers, to no avail. However it didn't take DH Hasso long to find him, where he had hidden among rotting vegetables in a compost heap.

m) Bank robbers, too, are not immune from police dogs. Two members of that fraternity, kitted out with masks and machine pistols, entered the Deutsche Bank, Munich, on the 17/07/1975. They netted DM 37,500 in cash. After an hour searching DH Axel located the pair in an underground garage. The leading robber decided to run for it. Carrying the cash in a bag he raced onto a playground where there were many children at play. He only covered around 80 metres, with Axel bounding after him, before he was caught and securely held.

n) Only days later, on the 06/08/1975, Axel had

another great success. He was strolling on the Theresienwiese (a Munich Green) when a Turkish registered omnibus that was parked beside the Green caught his attention and he indicated to his handler there were drugs on board. The vehicle was impounded and a search revealed 30 kg of hash, many times wrapped in polythene and deeply buried in powdered camphor to mask the smell, but not nearly good enough to fool Axel.

o) This one illustrates the value of a good retrieve. From a bridge over the Isar, an officer on foot patrol, at 09.40 hours on the 09/08/1975, observed a person fishing in the river. He had neither a licence or proper fishing rod. As the officer approached, the man who was a Greek guest worker, threw his tackle, which was just a hook on a nylon string running through a plastic pipe for rod, into the fast flowing river. With the incriminating gear disposed of he turned to the officer with a smile and said, "I do nothing. Just threw a stone". Receiving the commands, "Hopp" and "Bringen", DH Edo instantly plunged into the swift flowing water of the Isar and returned carrying the 'Corpus delicti' in his mouth, which resulted in a conviction and the man being deported.

p) Three climbers were scaling the Tegelberg, at 16.00 on the 09/10/1975, when one man slipped and fell. Hampered by deep snow his companions failed to locate him and in desperation descended to summon help from the Border Police and Mountain Watch. In darkness at 23.00, 7 hours after the accident, Avalanche Rescue Dog Cello, of the Border Police, located the luckless climber under nearly a metre of snow. Although injured and suffering from hypothermia he survived and lived to tell of his rescue by a German Shepherd Dog.

(The Tegelberg towers over Schwanngau lake, the location of scenes in the film, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. It is a must to visit when in Bavaria, for some of the most spectacular scenery in all of Germany, around the fairy tale palace of Neuschwanstein,

built by the manic depressive King Ludwig of Bavaria, who was drowned by the family doctor in Herrenchemsee, a lake surrounding a palace of the same name, another in a chain of palaces he built, to alleviate unemployment in his kingdom, during the middle of the 19th century. He was removed to bring to an end his building programme which was bankrupting Bavaria and had emptied the family coffers. Ed.)

q) LSH Ero and his handler, Polizeiobermeister Kreis, had a remarkable, if gruesome, success on

the 24/09/1987, in a wood near Foching, which is beside the autobahn between Salzburg and Munich. There they located the remains of a woman who had been murdered. Buried to a depth of almost a metre, the body had lain there for over a year".

Edo's qualification of LSH, for Leibensuchhund = Corpse-Search-Dog, show he was trained for that very important, if distasteful police work, of searching for murder victims. Dogs are remarkably successful in these operations and can save any amount of fruitless digging. Just watch how easily your pet can locate and dig out buried bones. Decomposition produces gases which slowly seep from a buried corpse to the surface bearing odorous atoms, enough of which will linger at ground level for a trained dog to identify and give a positive indication. In training, portions of rotting pig meat are used, as the odour is closest to that of human remains. There was quite a furore at one hospital, when it was discovered body parts, removed in the operating theatre, were being used for this purpose. One wonders why all the fuss. The off cuts were of no further benefit or use to their former owners, the patients. Even closer to the point, surgeons must acquire their skills carving up cadavers, so what could amputees find ethically wrong with their discarded limbs being used in, what after all is, a humanitarian service. Perhaps their permission should have been sought first.

In just four years, from 1979 to '82, the number of dogs in the Lower Saxony Police Force was more

than quadrupled, from 38 to 188, with German Shepherd Dogs overwhelmingly predominant.

The following analysis of service dogs in the Bavarian Police gives a good idea of the roles they played in 1988. Drug Search 73, Explosives Search 21, Disaster Rescue 20 Avalanche Rescue 18, Corpse Search 9. Of course many of the roles can and do overlap and interchange, for once the dog is trained it takes very little to extend his qualifications.

From the nearby twin States of Baden-Wurtemberg we have a comparison of the breeds in police service; Labrador 1, Cocker Spaniel 1, Rottweiler 3, Riesen (Giant) Schnauzer 3, German Shepherd Dog 313. A whopping 97.5 per cent GSD.

From the position, at the outset, of being least favoured for the work, the German Shepherd Dog has won through, against all comers and the stiffest opposition, which, at times amounted to rabid prejudice, to reach a position of unrivalled eminence in police service, where "Structural beauty" alone would not earn a dog a crust for a single day.

Max von Stephanitz summarised it up admirably in this quote; "- - -. Our Shepherd Dog is a born Police Dog, for when he is with the flocks and the herds he is also a 'Policeman'. He maintains Law and Order. Looks after the safety of his charges, punishes the wrongdoers and turns back the trespassers".

How succinctly put. What more can be added to the subject of German Shepherd Dogs in police service?



**Customs team
dropping in.**

09 THE GREAT WAR

The Boston Tea Party and storming of the Bastille, sparked off respectively the American and French Revolutions and raised the hopes, of the common people, that, by ridding themselves of the despotic ascendancy all men would become equal under the sun. But their hopes faded, with the retention of slavery in one and the overzealous use of the guillotine in the other. "The Rights of Man" were finally abrogated, by Napoleon Bonaparte, who **had** defended the revolution, when, in his haste to join the ascendancy, grew impatient with the fumbling of feeble pope Pious VI, taken prisoner and hauled to Paris for the occasion, snatched the crown from his hands and crowned **himself** emperor.

Napoleon's downfall unleashed a spate of empire building, world-wide, never before witnessed. The European ascendancy set about restoring their fortunes and replenishing their coffers, emptied during the long years of the Revolutionary Wars, by plundering weaker nations. In the prevailing climate of militarism, might was right and the winner took all, for there was no moral force to be reckoned with. Equipping their armies with weaponry of superior firepower, made available by the Industrial Revolution, and employing tactics learned from Napoleon, they outclassed local tribesmen. The advent of steamships enabled the rapid transport of armies to almost any spot on the globe, to intimidate the local population into subservience and forced labour, to support a monarch and privileged class, in faraway Europe. A class which was directly descended from the medieval robber barons, who took what they wanted by force and held it by the sword.

Hand in hand with the Church, they possessed all wealth, the land and the people living on the land, compelling them to labour for them and serve in their armies. With the blessing of the Christian Churches, engaged in converting 'the heathens', they exported their tyrannical system to all parts of the globe.

England and Russia were leaders in the game of 'beggar my neighbour' and were the only world powers, until the end of the 19th century. Together they controlled 38% of the land surface of the globe. When the duo was joined by France, Germany,

Japan and the USA, in the final phase, around 1900, and with unclaimed parcels of land dwindling rapidly the activities of the predator nations became as frenzied as feeding sharks.

Feeling claustrophobic, in their ice and land-locked motherland, successive tsars sent their Cossacks riding South, seeking lands with milder climates and ice free ports. They targeted India, but the English, who mastered the waves through piracy and slave trading out of Africa, made the trip by sea and got there first. Their involvement in the slave trade was begun by no less a personage than the Honourable Sir Francis Drake.

Turned aside from India and Persia, too, which was claimed to be in England's 'sphere of influence', the tsar turned elsewhere, to the Far East and the Balkans. He longed to sail his yacht through the Bosphorus, into the warm Mediterranean sunshine, without the Turks checking on who, or what, he had on board. In 1853 he sent his army into Rumania, then part of the Ottoman Empire, while his Navy bombarded Sinope.

England grew alarmed at his antics, fearful he was getting too big for his boots, fostered an alliance with France, to help the Turks. Even Mighty Mouse, Sardinia, joined in declaring war on the mighty tsar of all the Russias. The hopelessly ineptly conducted Crimean War ensued, which gave Florence Nightingale an opportunity to display her nursing skills.

Modelling on the Romans, the English master plan was for a land route linking Cape Town, through Cairo and Calcutta, to Singapore. With Africa, Southern Asia and Australia all marked on the map, in pillar box red, the Indian Ocean would become an inland waterway of the empire, just like the Mediterranean was to the Romans, giving the English a strangle hold and virtual monopoly of the lucrative tea, spices and opium trade.

The French regarded Africa as their backyard, providing unlimited exploitation, there and in Asia. Starting from Algeria, they subdued the nomads and crossed the vast Sahara to the White Nile, striking East for the Indian Ocean, at the Horn of Africa. They were racing against the English, who were working from North and South, mapping the route of the Cairo to Cape Town Pan African Highway.



GSD carrying food to Prussian soldiers.

The United States had spent the 19th century making, and cynically breaking, treaties with the indigenous people of North America, dispossessing them of their ancestral lands and had bled white in a Civil War, over slavery, from which they had not yet fully recovered, so were looking around for soft 'options' The dying Spanish Empire presented the opportunity of a 'hostile take over' of the Philippines and Puerto Rico.

Also, in the Far East, in the Land of the Rising Sun, the Mikado grew tired of total insular isolation and set off westward to acquire some real estate on mainland Asia. Emulating his western counterparts, he took what he wanted, without paying for it, of course. The tsar also had designs on the same property and being much the bigger bully made threats, but when his fighting men engaged the Japanese in combat, in 1895, the Mikado's warriors, skilled in the Martial Arts, taught the Russians a lesson or two.

Bismarck wanted to consolidate the reunification first, so the Second German Empire was very late joining the rush, still vast 'though arid tracts of Africa and numerous Pacific island archipelagos were acquired. His policies brought 43 years of unparalleled prosperity to the German people, although Wilhelm II, after he succeeded his grandfather in 1888, began to put all that in jeopardy, by his posturing and bellicose utterances.

He was also a grandson of Queen Victoria of England. An accident at birth partially crippled him, impairing his horse riding ability, which was an essential prerequisite for a nobleman. He grew up as proud and vain as a peacock and as arrogant as his English grandmother. As a child, playing with his cousins, on the beaches of the Isle of Wight, he

fell in love with the sea and spent much of his life at sea on board his royal yacht. His dream was an overseas empire, rivalling that of his English grandmother. On his accession, he gave instructions for the construction of a High Seas Fleet, to match the Royal Navy, as stage one in his plans for the aggrandisement of Germany, to world power status.

As justification for his plans he pointed to tiny neighbours, Belgium and Holland, holding The Congo and Indonesian Archipelago. He sent Bismarck into retirement, appointing a 'yes man' Chancellor, to agree unquestioningly with all of his daft ideas. In two decades he succeeded in demolishing all the good relations between Germany and her neighbours, which Bismarck had so painstakingly built up.

The Kaiser's physical disability may have caused an inferiority complex which drove him to seek recognition as a world statesman, but he constantly suffered from foot in mouth disease. On matters of Foreign Policy, usually left to the Chancellor, he was particularly vociferous and un-diplomatically outspoken. He was condemnatory on all the right issues, but for all the wrong reasons, succeeding only in antagonising friends and turning them into bitter enemies, of himself and the nation he represented.

He gave grievous offence to his grandmother, by sending a congratulatory telegram to Kruger, leader of the Boers, when they scored a resounding victory over Her Majesty's army. She had been duped, by mining moguls, eager for diamonds, into sending her redcoats into Transvaal. The Boers = Peasants were descended from early Dutch settlers on the Cape, who had trekked many miles to escape detested English rule and establish a pleasant homeland, free and independent. They were no push over and, although heavily outnumbered, put up a stiff resistance to hold on to their liberty.

As the Spanish Empire gave its last gasp. President McKinley, of the US, descended on the carcass like a vulture. He blockaded Manila, while trying to rip off chunks. The American would have preferred to do his dirty work out of the limelight, but the Kaiser sent warships, to keep an eye on the proceedings, which acutely embarrassed the man in the White House and his real estate carpet bagging cronies.

The Kaiser made a mortal enemy of the Mikado, too, in similar circumstances when he disapproved of the lather's expansionist program in Korea. Then he trod on the toes of the mighty tsar and antago-

nised him, when he criticised him for running amuck in the Far East and shouldering some little yellow men out of his path.

Since the war of 1870 the French had directed their hatred at Germany, until, in 1898, the forces of Colonel Marchand and Lord Kitchener confronted each other at Fashoda on the White Nile, in the Sudan, which brought London and Paris to the brink of war. The French backed down and England, briefly, became the focus of intense French hatred. The dispute presented the Kaiser with a golden opportunity to capitalise, which Bismarck would have grasped with both hands, to make a treaty with one, or the other. Could Wilhelm II do it? Not a bit of him. He never rested until he antagonised the French and refocused their hatred on himself and Germany. He found the ideal opportunity when the French were about to occupy Morocco and he shouted, "Foul!". Which merely delayed proceedings and allowed England and France to get together at the Moroccan Conference, 1905, to patch up their quarrel, in an *entente cordiale*. Like a pair of thugs divvying up the loot, they agreed on a trade-off, England got Egypt and France got Morocco. All that the Kaiser and Germany were left with, were the grapes of wrath.

In the second Moroccan crisis, 1911, the Kaiser sent the gunboat, Panther, to Agadir and almost precipitated war, giving rise to 'gunboat diplomacy'. He was trying, in a ham fisted way, to drive England and France apart and only achieved the opposite.

During the time the "von Grafrath" kennel books were written, that was 1897 to 1914, Imperial Germany resembled a runaway express train heading for disaster, with a 'nutter' at the controls keeping the throttle open and absolutely no legitimate means of restraining, or removing him. He had incurred the wrath of the leaders of five of the most powerful nations, while remaining friendly with the aged Emperor of Austria-Hungary and the Sultan of the Ottoman Turks, who presided over two ramshackle empires which had passed their sell by dates and were held together by sticking plaster and bits of string.

The Kaiser's friendship with the Sultan,

was fraught with very real dangers for Germany, from three quarters. In furtherance of ambitions to control the Dardanelles, tsar Nicholas fomented strife in the Balkans and in 1912 incited a consortium of small nations to attack

the Turks. Although the Sultan had been deposed, by the 'Young Turks', and no longer enjoyed the pleasures of the Seraglio, this action eventually led to the tsar's own downfall and the murder of his entire family, extinguishing the Romanov dynasty.

The English and French were now back in each other's arms, having agreed the carve up of Africa between them and were turning their beady eyes on the Arab regions of the sprawling Ottoman Empire. Oil was assuming economic importance in the West and the stuff was bubbling to the surface in Mesopotamia. Inflammable and therefore dangerous, it was suggested that the Arabs would be much better off without oil and anyway they couldn't use it in their camels, which was good enough justification for going in and relieving them of it and in doing so, completing the Master Plan for the land route, linking Africa and India. The only snag was, the damn fool Kaiser would raise Cain and present them as the aggressors to the rest of the world.

With the Big Three just waiting for a pretext to fall upon the Ottoman Empire, to dismember it and bearing in mind that the Kaiser was a buddy of the Sultan and had publicly expressed his friendship and support, to their annoyance, a major war into which Germany would inevitably be drawn, loomed ever closer.

In Paris, the hostility to Germany was even more intense. The French still smarted from the loss of their two provinces beside the Rhine and wanted *revanche*. When President Poincare, a native of long lost Lorraine, was elected in 1913, on a promise to win back Alsace-Lorraine, a major European war became an absolute certainty. The only uncertainty remaining, was when it would start. The spark which ignited the powder keg, that blew millions away, came from the barrel of an assassin's gun, in the streets of Sarajevo, Bosnia, then an outpost of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

The heir to the Austrian Throne and his consort were visiting Sarajevo, when they came face to face with the assassin, Gavrilo Prinzip, who ruthlessly slaughtered them. He was a member of the Black Hand separatist group, aided and abetted by Serbian Army officers and officials, engaged in a Greater Serbia expansionist movement. The 20th century is ending and the Serbs, bloody minded as ever, are still at it. That fatal day was the 28th June 1914. The line of the Habsburgs, who had ruled from Vienna since 1278, was in danger of extinction. The octogenarian Emperor Franz Joseph was desolate, for his eldest son had already taken his

own life, along with the lover he would not part from.

The Austrian government was paralysed, until the Kaiser intimated, through diplomatic channels, he would back whatever action they took. Entirely on his own initiative, without informing the Reichstag, Kaiser Wilhelm II passed the destinies of his 65 million subjects into the hands of others outside the state and not accountable to it.

Galvanised by his support the Austrians issued an ultimatum to the Serbian government, to deal with the assassin's accomplices. The Serbs, under the tsar's tutelage, rejected the demand and prepared for war, by mobilising their army. The Austrians obliged them and declared war on Serbia on the 28th of July, exactly one month after their prince was murdered. Tsar Nicholas was in high glee, for a 'barny' (Dublinese for a barn dance) in the Balkans, was just what he wanted. It provided an excuse to flex his muscles, while encroaching ever closer to Constantinople. He ordered the mobilisation of his vast army, "To go to the aid of our Slav cousins". As good a slogan as any, to send over 2 million men to certain death and another 4.75 million to be wounded. Putting Russia at the top of the table, with six and three quarter million casualties, in World War I.

The Kaiser used address the tsar as, "Dearest cousin Nicky". Becoming alarmed he ordered Nicky to stop playing war games and behave. He waited 3 days for an answer but got none. "Cousin Nicky" pretended not to hear and went on exhorting his

men to, "Give your lives for Mother Russia", which, of course, actually meant dying for him. On the 1st of August the Kaiser declared war on Russia and two days later on France, to show he was taking up the cudgels, on behalf of the Austrians and because the French were in alliance with the Russians. Strictly speaking, the French, being republicans, should not have been invited, to a royal fireworks party. Feeling a little peeved at being left out of the flag waving and drum beating jamboree, the monarch of England invited himself along, by declaring war on his first cousin, on the 4th August. Now the Catherine Wheels would be seen all the way, from the North Sea to the Red Sea, and in Africa and the Pacific, as the cousins in Berlin, London and St. Petersburg played war games with their toy soldiers.

Now in his 50th year, Max von Stephanitz was recalled to active service. He closed his kennel books, cancelled the forthcoming Sieger Show, donned a uniform, embraced his loved ones and joined the millions of men, in the prime of life, on their way to one, or other, of the many Fronts, to engage millions of other young men in mortal combat, for no better reason than they were coming from the opposite direction.

He left behind his beloved German Shepherd Dogs, with exception of one faithful female he took along with him, as a companion. She was named, Hell. No, not named after Lucifer's residence, quite the opposite to that. Hell is light, in colour. She saw service in Belgium, Carpathia, France, Hungary,



A MH on a dangerous mission. Few despatch carrying dogs survived this dangerous work, in WW I.



German Army cable layer.

Poland, Romania, Serbia and Transylvania. Everywhere they went her master studied the local canine population, as a distraction from the horrors of the conflict. His observations later found their way into his books.

Circumstances and the Kaiser's actions had landed Germany in the situation most feared by Bismarck, simultaneously at war on two Fronts. Ten years earlier the brilliant strategist, von Schlieffen, then Chief-of-Staff, had devised a contingency plan for just such an eventuality, of going first for a quick knockout in the West, before concentrating all available forces against the might of Russia.

During the Moroccan Conference (1906) agents of the king of England had gone into cahoots with minions of the king of the Belgians and struck a deal, that, in the event of Germany being at war, they would facilitate the deployment of the British Army in Belgium, in return for assurances that the Belgian monarch would be permitted to continue exploiting The Congo, as his own vast private estate.

Just a couple of years later, the atrocities inflicted on the Congolese workers, by their Belgian slave drivers, were exposed by the Irishman, Roger Casement. His humanitarian work earned him a knighthood, from the English Establishment. Half a dozen years later, in 1916, when the shoe was on the other foot, the very same English Establishment insisted on hanging Sir Roger, for trying to free his own people.

Aware horse trading was going on, German espionage quickly unearthed the collusion of the Belgians, which effectually negated the position of Belgian neutrality. The knowledge of Belgian duplicity required a slight modification to the Plan. This time the road to Paris would not be the direct route through Metz, but through Brussels instead. The deal was kept secret in the West and the invasion of "neutral" Belgium, by the Germans, was used as a powerful propaganda tool, in drumming up support for the Allies.

Without doing much to defend Belgium, England assumed the role of, "Defender of small nations". Ironically her 'knight in shining armour', whose likeness appeared on recruiting posters, was none other than Lord Horatio Kitchener, who had subjugated the independent people of Transvaal, by two years of a 'scorched earth' campaign which caused the deaths of 26,000 women and children in concentration camps. The trick worked and 2.5 million young men, from around the world, volunteered to serve in 'Kitchener's New Armies' and hundreds of thousands of them died gruesome deaths, for a lie and a myth, that they were, 'Fighting for freedom'. On the same side as the tsar oppressor and his murderous henchmen un the Balkans ? ! . !.

The Schlieffen Plan was to strike through Belgium, to Dunkirk and deprive the English of their beachhead. Then, pivoting on the Ardennes Forest, swing South into France and then East in a

massive swinging sledge hammer blow, taking Paris *en passant* and the French Army from the rear and cracking it, like a nut on an anvil, against the German Army of the Rhine. (The French learned nothing from history and allowed Hitler's *Wehrmacht* to execute this manoeuvre, to perfection, in 1940, taking the fortresses of the Maginot Line from the rear).

But, as Robbie Burns, the Scottish poet, put it in Lallans, "The best laid plans of mice and men may aft times gang a-gley". For the German Commander-in-Chief, Helmuth

von Moltke, proved totally incompetent. Lacking flair, he tampered with the Schlieffen Plan, against advice. Fearing a French thrust into the Rhineland he held large forces in reserve. Worse than that, he detached two whole armies from the right wing and sent them to meet the invading Russians. That proved to be disastrous. With insufficient forces the encircling columns became overstretched and separated in France.

Right of passage, through Belgium, was demanded and when refused the Germans fought their way through. The Belgian defence, of the fortress of Liege, delayed the advance for some days and took away the element of surprise, allowing the ill equipped French 5th army, of reservists still getting into uniforms, to move into Belgium. Unable to halt the German advance, they merely slowed it down. A token Expeditionary Force, of the regular British Army, was sent across the Channel. The Kaiser described them as, "Contemptible". Surviving veterans became known as, 'Old Contemptibles'. They were brushed aside in a bloody skirmish at Mons, but, with the remnants of the Belgian Army, managed to hold a coastal strip, posing a threat to the German right flank.

Confusion reigned supreme, on both sides. Von Moltke aimlessly moved divisions from one sector to another and frequently procrastinated over vital decisions. His ineptitude lost the war for Germany, despite the French C-in-C, Marshal Joseph Joffre, having been caught completely by surprise and unprepared for a German assault through Belgium. The Allied forces, too, were uncoordinated and unaware of the overall situation, greatly diminishing their effectiveness.

Two new French armies were hastily assembled. Urgently called up reservists snatched their rifles and piled into Paris taxicabs and sped to meet the invaders. A few miles North of Paris they ran smack into German advance parties and bloody battles

ensued. Fighting like tigers the Frenchmen halted the advance and drove the Germans back across the Marne. Gaps up to 30 miles wide had opened between the 3 German armies when Joffre sent an army column thrusting to the rear of the German 1st army, under General Alexander von Kluck, marching East.

Communications with the German GHQ, in Luxembourg, broke down and a staff officer, sent to ascertain the situation, ordered a general withdrawal. Von Moltke broke down completely under the strain. His weakness lost the opportunity of a quick victory over the French, which would have averted the four years of slaughter, carnage and indescribable suffering of millions, which was to follow. He was removed by the Kaiser and the War Minister appointed instead. Erich von Falkenhayn was an advocate of trench warfare and so the order went out to the German soldiers, "Dig in".

Now that the chance to end it quickly had been blown and the war would not be over for Christmas, as both sides had promised, the prospect was for a long drawn out war. Already the losses, on both sides, were far higher than had been anticipated and that was but the prelude. To draw forces away from the Marne, directly threatening Paris, the French launched an offensive, in the wine making Department of Champagne, further East, which ran on into 1915, in which they lost 120,000 dead and missing and 260,000 wounded, to advance a **quarter** of a mile. The French, rather optimistically, estimated the German dead at 140,000, for invariably, in trench warfare, the attackers lost far more heavily than the defenders.

Both sides started digging trenches, which became more elaborate with the passage of time, with drainage channels, duck boards, firing steps, latrines, deep shelters, sleeping berths, where a few hours fitful sleep could be taken, if the pests allowed. Billions of man hours excavated a labyrinthine web, miles wide and zigzagging all the way from the Rhine to the Belgian coast. Just mere scratches in the earth's crust, but they were fought over and for, as if they were the last footholds of the human race, on planet earth. They brought stalemate for four years, with death in utterly indescribable squalor and misery for millions of men.

In the initial phase, *Meldehunde* = messenger dogs, were little used by the Germans. Contrary to general belief, Germany was relatively unprepared for war in 1914. France, with a population of 39 millions, had a larger military establishment than

Germany with a population of 65 millions. During the lull, enforced by Winter, dogs were requisitioned and trained for the task. Due to bungling, and even hostility, in the army, Sanitaetshunde = dogs working with the Red Cross, were not operative for months, missing the advance through Belgium into France, where they should have proved very effective, as an advancing army presents greater scope in searching for the wounded. Requisitioning and training of dogs, for both messenger and rescue, really got under way in 1915. In all 28,000 dogs, a great many of them German Shepherd Dogs, served as non combatant aides with the German Army in WW I, while 4,000 dogs, almost entirely trained, supplied and accompanied by members of the SV, worked with the German Red Cross. Out of that number 5,000 German Shepherd Dogs died while serving at the Front.

Spring 1915 and the gravest threat to the Central Powers loomed out of the East. The tsar had assembled one of the largest armies ever seen, about equal in numbers to the Germans and Austrians combined. Convinced he was invincible the tsar sent his army lumbering westward. Falkenhayn put the Western Front on 'hold' and transferred great masses of men and armaments to the Eastern Front, to do battle with the Russian. The French, and to a far lesser extent the English, availed of the opportunity, to launch assault after assault, to drive out the invaders, but bled profusely and were decimated by a well entrenched enemy, while making very insignificant gains. The utter futility of massed infantry assaults, against modern weaponry, should have been learnt, but was not.

The Eastern Front ran from Romania through the Carpathians and West of Warsaw, through present day Poland, to the Baltic Sea. During August 1914 the Russian Army of the Narev, under Cossack General Aleksandr Samsonov, veteran of the Turkish and second (1905) Japanese Wars, invaded Prussia. He was met by an army under General Paul Hindenburg, who surrounded and annihilated the Russians at Tannenberg, 90 miles NE of Warsaw. The defeat was so complete that Samsonov committed suicide.

Throughout 1915, in fighting on a scale and ferocity not yet seen in the West, Germans under Hindenburg and Ludendorff and Austrians under Hotzendorff met the Russian offensive head on. Setting up pincer movements, of attacking from two directions simultaneously, they crunched whole Russian army corps and fortresses. Russian soldiers

died in tens of thousands. They were as brave as their opponents, but were poorly trained and badly equipped, in particular they were short of ammunition and lacked good artillery.

Austrian and German losses were also horrendous and the Swedish Red Cross estimated after the war that 600,000 Austrian and German prisoners-of-war, sent to Siberia by the tsar and forgotten about, were left to perish from cold and starvation.

The pincer strategy required a high degree of communications skills. The procedure was to punch holes several miles apart through the enemy lines, then squadrons of cavalry galloped through to spring the trap shut and cut off retreat. They were followed by packed columns of infantry and artillery pieces, hauled by mules and draught horses. With attacks and counterattacks coming from all directions the situation became very confused and in the mayhem men were frequently shelled and fired on by their own. When that happened in the Gulf War the Americans coined the sick euphemism, "Hit by friendly fire". As if that was any consolation for those having received it. To minimise that risk, HQ had to know precisely the progress of every unit and be informed hourly of their exact positions. Field radios and mobile phones had not been invented and telegraph lines took time to erect. Customarily, in all armies of the day, contact between field units and headquarters was maintained by runners, horseback riders and semaphore signals.

The Germans were also using Meldehunde, dogs trained to carry despatches in capsules attached to their collars, or satchels for large documents and maps slung across the dog's back. Each dog worked between two handlers, sometimes known as the 'bow wow corporals', one at HQ and the other with a regiment in the field. In the constant ebb and flow of the fighting on the Eastern Front dogs proved to be the most reliable messengers. Amongst them German Shepherd Dogs excelled, because of their innate intelligence. When the GSD returned, to find his unit had moved on, he just put his nose down and tracked it to the new location.

Nor did a handler becoming a casualty prove any great problem, the dog attached himself to the missing man's comrades and continued serving the unit. By year's end, with his army on the defensive, the threat from the tsar was temporarily lifted. German Shepherd Meldehunde played a major non combatant role in that success.



German Army Messenger Dogs.

GSD loaded with carrier pigeons.



Nella KrH. 1st Bavarian hunter regiment pre war.

Italy was in a Triple Alliance with Austria and Germany, renewed 3 years earlier, but, in an act of treachery, the Italian government entered a secret agreement in London, 26th March 1915, to change sides, on promises of huge territorial gains. Four weeks later the Italians made a sudden attack on Austria, in an opportunistic move, impatient to knock flitches off Austria's soft underbelly.

The politicians miss timed their move and their enthusiastic, but inexperienced, army got a terrible mauling, as the long lists of names on the War Memorials at Gorizia and Rovoretto, in the Brenner Pass, still testify. By joining the winning side the Italian government eventually acquired large tracts of land, which were dearly paid for, in the blood of the Italian people.

On the Western Front, in 1915, due to the close proximity of the French front-line trenches and the

range and accuracy of their superior high powered rifles, in the hands of expert marksmen, exacting such a heavy toll on German soldiers running with despatches, the German High Command was compelled to seriously consider alternatives and decided on the increased use of dogs and carrier pigeons.

Falkenhayn ordered a sudden attack on the fortresses surrounding Verdun, which began 21st February 1916, with a bombardment by 1,200 heavy guns. When the fighting died down a week before Christmas they had traded 13,000,000 artillery shells with the French. General Philippe Petain ordered his Frenchmen to hold Verdun, at all cost. The irresistible force met the immovable object. The impact was indescribable. For 300 days they struggled over the same kilometre of ground. 377,000 French and 345,000 German soldiers, an average of 2,400 men

every single day, were butchered and slaughtered by gas, bullet, bayonet, or ripped asunder by exploding bombs, shells, grenades and land mines amid the stench of gas, gunpowder, cordite and putrefying flesh. In excess of a million and a half more men were wounded, most were broken in mind, or body, for life.

The horrors of the trenches were shared alike by the men on both sides. The trenches swarmed with vermin. Fresh reinforcements were crawling with lice and hopping with fleas within hours, while rats swarmed everywhere, feasting on flesh and spilled rations. Men were bitten by them, as they slept, went septic in the absence of antibiotics and died. Men returning from leave, brought dogs of the Terrier type, to suppress the rat population and be their 'guardian angels' while they slept. When off duty, the German Shepherd Dogs made enthusiastic ratters, too.

While the continental powers belaboured each other with mighty blows His Majesty's government serenely went about recruiting men from the Colonies. 2,500,000 men were induced to volunteer. 10 % came from Ireland. With another 80,000 serving in the army, or called up from reserve, a total of a third of a million from a population of 4.5 million. Every 7th man made a fatal mistake, for 50,000 of them never returned. The German people had no quarrel with the Irish, they regarded Ireland and the Irish with nostalgia and esteem, for bringing civilisation and learning to their forefathers, during the first millennium. Now their country was being invaded and the Irish were fighting against them, with the Serb assassins and the tyrant tsar. War can turn friends into enemies.

Opposing factions in Ireland were gun running and arming, to fight each other, over Home Rule, but Whitehall used clever propaganda to lure both sides into the British Army. Loyalists, who would not lift a finger for Catholic Belgium, were told, "Your king and country needs you". Nationalists, who would have preferred to fight the king of England, rather than fight for him, were exhorted to join and fight for, "Little Catholic Belgium". Side by side, fighting a common foe in the blood baths of the Somme and Flanders, they became good friends and many share a common grave there, for mass burial was the norm, after major battles.

In 1914, going to war was still glorious and 'falling beneath the flag' was still portrayed as the noblest act, but a lot of that utter nonsense died with the men in the trenches, who were lured and

duped into the mindless slaughter of the first World War.

The English pacifist poet, Wilfred Owen, did much to debunk the glory of war, in his letters from the Western Front, before he himself was killed. In a letter dated 19th January 1917 he wrote, "It is pock-marked like the body of foulest disease, and its odour is the breath of cancer. No Man's Land under snow is like the face of the moon, chaotic, crater ridden, uninhabitable, awful, the abode of madness".

The inferno around Verdun had raged for over four months and the French were getting perilously close to the bottom of their manpower barrel. For almost two years they had borne the brunt of the fighting, on the Western Front, while the English procrastinated, playing a minor role in a waiting game. Paris was screaming, for London to take action and come to the relief of Verdun, for if it fell the spirit of France would collapse with it.

Certain, that almost two years, battling the French and Russians, had sufficiently weakened the German Army, Whitehall considered the time was ripe to launch a massive assault and make a breakthrough, to start the victory march on Berlin. To that purpose they assembled a vast army along the Somme. The English High Command had so many pieces of artillery, almost wheel to wheel, they scarcely knew how best to deploy them.

For six days and nights they showered shells on the German positions, at the rate of 100,000 a day, a rate never before endured by German forces. The constant rumble of the barrage was distinctly heard in the South of England. Pinned down in their deep shelters, by sheets of flying shrapnel, the German wounded could not be evacuated and suffered on and the dead went unburied. Their ears stuffed with cotton wool and yet the drums were bursting from the explosions. Claustrophobic fears, of being buried alive, snapped the nerves of some men, sending them berserk endangering everyone else and necessitating having to be knocked out.

The order for the Allied assault, which was to prove disastrous, was given and at 07.30 on the 1st of July 1916 the heavy guns fell silent and three massive explosions, in tunnels driven under the German positions, by army engineers, heralded the start of a combined English and French infantry assault, along a 17 miles stretch of the Front.

Sensing the assault, the German soldiers emerged from their shelters and as their eyes accustomed to daylight, saw hundreds of thousands of

men, in khaki coloured uniforms, climbing out of the enemy trenches and **walking** towards them in close ranks, like workmen going into a mine. The Allies had around three million men in the area. Roughly half of them were British Army. All along the line officers were blowing whistles and drilling their men, to keep ranks. They were handicapped by over 46 kg of kit and equipment and in addition to a rifle with fixed bayonet, each man carried a pick or shovel. Their orders were to repair the trenches they occupied, against a German counter-attack. No resistance was anticipated, after the heavy bombardment. Sir Aylmer Hunter Weston, addressing his regiment of Accrington mill lads, before sending them out to annihilation, said, "not even a rat had survived". He sent them totally unprepared to their deaths. The incompetent Allied High Command had ordered the artillery men to fire shrapnel, which failed to penetrate German deep shelters, or break up the barbed wire entanglements, which impeded the infantrymen.

Quickly assuming firing positions, the German soldiers fed long belts of ammunition into their heavy machine guns, for now it was kill or be killed. Each gun was capable of discharging ten rounds per second, firepower that could hack a man in half while he was still standing. They were positioned so that their fields of fire intersected and overlapped and remarkably few were damaged by the artillery barrage.

Opening fire with a staccato that sent fear to the hearts of the bravest, while pivoting to right and left, the machine guns cut swaths, just like the scythe of the Grim Reaper, through the phalanxes of advancing infantrymen. Then the German artillery began finding the range, adding to the slaughter. The men were taken completely by surprise, while in close formations in the open. The basic training of Kitchener's "New Armies" only came up to foot drill and operating *en masse*, for in the two years of warfare the Allied High Command had learned absolutely nothing about assault tactics, which were unaltered since the battle of Waterloo. Whole platoons were cut down, by rapid firing modern weapons and fell in clusters of corpses and broken bodies, writhing in agony.

The Irishman, Monk Gibbon, who served as an officer, recounted on radio how a 'brass hat' (staff officer) viewing the proceedings through binoculars, from a safe distance, demanded to know, "Why are all those chaps lying down out there?". It had not impinged on his minuscule brain that the war,

little more than a game for him, was well and truly over for most of those "chaps". Imbeciles like him have not the slightest compunction about sending men to certain death, by the thousand, and they are present in all armies.

The British Army took a very tough line, with malingerers and deserters. When the trenches had emptied, military police walked through them and on finding a coward crouching there, unable to "go over the top", because his legs had turned to jelly, on refusal to comply a service revolver was placed to his head and a bullet in the brain put the wretched man out of his misery. The total number dealt with in that manner, or shot for desertion, is unknown, but it ran to many hundreds of men.

The English ascendancy looked down their noses at 'the lower orders' in their own society and regarded as 'inferior' the other races they had subjugated and ruled over. By cunning manipulation of the British Army, which they controlled, this ruling elite, of a relatively small country, managed to control a fifth of the globe, by the simple expedient of setting one 'inferior' race against another. Scottish soldiers garrisoned Ireland, Irish soldiers were sent to India, and so on, but when it came to fighting wars for them, they were pleased to give front-line positions to the Aussies, Jocks and Paddies, for apparently, there was an inverse ratio, of the sacrifices, demanded in return for membership of the British Empire, the nearer one got to the heart of it.

Punch amused its readership, with cartoons portraying the Irish with sub-human features captioned, "The missing link between the Negro and the gorilla". From that perspective they were expendable and it was 'fair play', by the High Command, to put the Irish regiments in first, to bat against the Hun. For the most part Australian and Irish divisions spearheaded the assault. Displaying valour seldom equalled, but never surpassed, in that long and bloody war, men of the 36th Ulster division carried the fight, farther than any other unit, into the third line of enemy trenches and so far forward they were enfiladed from both flanks. They won the most decorations for bravery, on that day, but for the overall duration of the war, it was the Munster Fusiliers, from the strongly Nationalist 16th, which became the most highly decorated regiment in the British Army.

The first day of the Battle of the Somme ranks as the greatest disaster in the entire history of England. By sunset the army of King George V had suffered 59,000 casualties, one third of them fatal and many



Ambulance Corps training, the wagons were a rough ride.

more died from wounds. Placed shoulder to shoulder the dead and wounded would stretch for 23 miles. The 16th Irish and 36th Ulster divisions had their fighting strength halved in a single day and over four thousand Irishmen lay dead. The futility of their sacrifice may be judged against the German losses for that sector, on the same day, which were 170 dead. That year the English advanced their sector by one mile a month, for six months, at a cost of 620,000 casualties. 100,000 casualties per mile. Surely some of the costliest real estate ever acquired. Truly a *via dolorosa*, a 'way of sorrows'. By the time the telegrams, of notification of death, ceased arriving, scarcely a family in Ireland had not been touched by the consequences and the name of the Somme, just an insignificant river in France, passed into the Irish psyche.

The architect of that debacle, Field Marshal Douglas Haig, held on to office and became a national hero, for winning the war, although his reputation did begin to tarnish when prime minister David Lloyd George wrote about him, that he treated the soldiers lives "with disdain", while keeping himself safe, well away from the Front.

Before the Battle of the Somme began the Russians were on the offensive again. With a rejuvenated army, spearheaded by regiments of amazons, 2,500,000 Russian men and women soldiers,

under General Alexei Brusilov, possibly their most brilliant commander, broke through the Austrian sector, in the Carpathians, on the 4th of June. Disgusted with the poor showing of their menfolk, the previous year, the women had sought and obtained the consent of the tsar to bear arms and push out the Russian frontier farther West.

The situation was fraught with the gravest peril, for the Central Powers, and in the face of it the Kaiser divested himself of the Supreme Command and conferred it on Hindenburg, with Luidendorf co-responsible. In complete contrast to his belligerent posturing in peacetime, the Kaiser remained strangely silent and ineffectual throughout the war. He behaved like an imbecile, who played with matches and having started a conflagration, now looked on in mesmerised awe and wonder. Some hero he proved to be.

Led by the German cavalry, every last reserve was thrown in to plug the gap the Russians were pouring through, into Austria. As if that was not bad enough, Romania attacked Austria, on the 28th of August and occupied Transylvania, which had been left unprotected. Fighting the numerous battles of 1916, on several fronts, taxed the heavily outnumbered German Army to its absolute limits. 240 Austrian and German divisions were struggling against over 400 Allied divisions and yet at year's

end, when Winter brought a respite and the fighting died down, the armies of the Central Powers, by superhuman efforts, had stabilised all Fronts, with minimal loss of territory.

The fluid fighting on the Eastern Front provided excellent scope for *Meldebunde* and *Sanitaetshunde*. In those desperate circumstances the German Army relied more heavily, than ever, on the dogs. In warfare it is vital to know what the enemy is up to. Observation posts were set up at points as close as possible to the enemy lines. Men went up in tethered balloons, but they were soft targets. Maintaining contact was particularly hazardous, for it was certain death to be caught in the open, at such close range. Dogs proved to be the answer.

The dogs worked most efficiently throughout the night, ferrying forward urgently needed supplies to the posts. In addition to papers and personal mail for men in beleaguered positions, they carried forward ammunition, food, water, cigarettes and carrier pigeons, to be released carrying urgent warnings of impending assaults. The larger articles were transported in satchels and pannier baskets strapped on their backs.

They even laid telephone lines. No, that is not a leg pull. It is quite genuine. Ranging officers, directing artillery fire from the posts, sent their instructions by semaphore, or telegraph, to the gunners well to the rear. When the land lines were severed by enemy shellfire, or traffic, the quickest way to reconnect was to get a dog to lay new lines. But how? Simple. Sling two reels of wire across the dog's shoulders, secure the ends of the wires and tell the dog to go to the observation post. When the dog set off the wire unreeled behind and a quarter mile of line was laid, "as fast as a dog can trot".

The following narrative demonstrates the affection the soldiers had for their German Shepherd Dog comrades and gives some insight, from a person who was there, of what it was like to be on the receiving end of a bombardment. It was culled from "*Hunde im Krieg*", Dogs in the War, published in Berlin in 1932, which I have translated.

"Max and Moritz.

The scene, a chateau, between Roye and Noyon, northern France. Time World War I. Our advance into France had been halted. Trench warfare had followed. The Germans had established a forward *Feldwache*, in the chateau, together with a battalion strong covering force. The task of my support com-

pany was to keep the post supplied with munitions and food. Our supply base was in a five metres deep bunker. A wide treeless meadow lay between us and the OP. Communication was maintained by two *Meldebunde*, who day in day out brought back reports from the OP. They were two black German Shepherd Dogs, brothers, so much alike that it was almost impossible to tell them apart without the aid of the name tags tied on their collars, which read Max and Moritz.

Each time on arrival, they made alternate trips, silently the dog would spring down into the bunker and pass among the men with a great show of friendliness on his way to deliver his message to the officer. Everybody was pleased to see a friendly creature in that hostile arena. A few scraps of bread would be rooted out and offered, when consumed the dog sprang up and away back to the Front again.

The artillery fire was intensifying. The French were mounting a counter-attack. Shrapnel and bullets zipped across the meadow and the earth quaked as shells exploded clouding the battleground with smoke and fumes. We noticed the dogs trembled at the explosions, yet they never failed to go back out into the inferno, zigzagging like trained soldiers and dropping to the ground when the firing became intense. It was a wonder how they could get across that open meadow safely.

After about eight days we had to evacuate the bunker and fall back as the French stove in the German Front. The retreat was carried out in darkness. We were humping the heavy boxes of munitions along when something brushed against our legs. One of the dogs had overtaken us. It was Moritz, he had a slight asthmatic wheeze. He accompanied us on the retreat. Suddenly Moritz lay on the ground whimpering softly. What was the matter? For just an instant we wondered. Then we knew what it was. A salvo of four, perhaps five, low velocity shells (slower than sound) were coming our way. The dog had picked up the high pitched whine they make and understood it meant danger and was trying to warn us. We dived to the ground beside the boxes just before the shells exploded close around us. There were no casualties and Moritz dashed to and fro between us, no doubt proud that he had given us warning.

The bridge over the Arve was blown out, but our four legged guide led us to a temporary bridge. Bathed in sweat we arrived safely at our new strong point.

The chateau garrison was now virtually isolated.

All day, every half hour, Max or Moritz brought reports of how things were at the observation post. Then the inevitable happened. Max brought the sad report that his brother, Moritz, had been terribly injured by a grenade explosion in the chateau and had to be put out of his agony.

Max continued shuttling over and back, now having to double for his dead brother, keeping the isolated battalion in contact with divisional H.Q. Obviously affected by the sudden death of his brother he no longer accepted offers of food. Tirelessly he ran between the two points. The attack was being concentrated on the chateau. Max had just arrived with a despatch from HQ, to the battalion, when a salvo of artillery shells found their mark and buried him with his comrades of the battalion in the rubble of the chateau".

1917 was a year of abject misery, all across Europe. The war dragged on with no sign of victory for either side. Both sides had made changes at the top, but had failed to find a general to lead them to victory. The wettest year on record compounded the suffering of the soldiers and half starved workers. In Russia, revolution broke out in March, before the snows had melted, Germany had general strikes, France was on the verge of economic and military collapse. The French Army was mutinous. Their new C-in-C, General Robert Nivelle, planned a massive assault for April in the Reims sector and boasted so much in advance, that he forewarned the Germans, who were ready and waiting. Two months of repeated suicidal assaults achieved nothing, but added another 200,000 dead to the French Army casualty lists. Morale sank to its lowest point. Men among the reinforcements moving into the trenches mimicked the bleating of sheep, to indicate they were being sacrificed like lambs going to the slaughter. The sentiment spread and 100,000 French soldiers sat down and refused to obey orders. No more suicide assaults on impregnable positions. After a while 5,000 men were court-martialled. Their leaders were spirited away and the lowest estimate puts the number executed by firing squad at 49. Nivelle was removed and replaced by Marshal Philippe Petain, whose defence of Verdun the previous year had made him a national hero. The change brought the men back into line, before the Germans learnt of the dissension and capitalised on it.

With France and Russia collapsing the burden, of waging the war, now fell heaviest on England. The flood of volunteers had dried up, in the mount-

ing disenchantment, as the war dragged on. Conscription had been introduced in Britain the previous year, to replace the catastrophic losses at the Somme. Now it was the turn of the men of the mill towns of the Shires and the farms of the Home Counties to spill their guts and shed their blood, in the fierce battles fought around Arras and Ypres, which they mispronounced Wipers.

Delayed by the rains, the English resumed the offensive in Flanders on the 7th of June 1917, attacking the low Meson Ridge which formed a salient dominating the low-lying countryside. Their engineers had been busy tunnelling under the ridge and detonated 19 massive explosions under the Germans, which ripped the ridge apart.

The blast was so great that scores of British Army men were also killed. They had climbed out of their trenches too soon. The remaining Germans were overwhelmed in savage bayonet fighting. Once again the depleted Irish 16th and 36th divisions were in the thick of it, losing another two thousand lives, killed outright, or dying from wounds soon after. A future militarist, Adolf Hitler, served on that sector at the time.



Renowned Rescue Dog Romeo v. Schlossgraben PDH. SH. He even rescued his handler, Roewer, when he was buried alive.

The German soldiers were far more deadly, when on the defensive, methodically slaughtering the waves of English and French infantrymen by the thousand. Step by step, in a planned rearguard action, they fell back on the Hindenburg Line and held firm.

At some stages Haig advanced his front-line at an estimated cost of 44 corpses **per metre**. 700,000 Britons ; English, Scots and Welsh, died in the great slaughter of Flanders and one wonders what did they die for and yet total British Army losses were scarcely half those of the French Army, which suffered 1.75 million fatalities. The Canadians made their very substantial sacrificial contribution of flesh and blood around Vimy Ridge.

The English were supported at Cambrai by hundreds of aircraft and a thousand tanks, their latest invention. Their losses of manpower the previous year were unsustainable. Something to give them supremacy was needed, gun platforms moving forward on caterpillar tracks, with armour plating to protect the crews. The shape and construction resembled a tank and invited that name and it has stuck ever since. 1917 was the worst possible year to introduce them. They broke down, or just bogged down wholesale, in the mud and rain and the Germans dug wide trenches to trap them.

Every hummock taken, was trumpeted by the jingoistic Fleet St. press as, "We are advancing", without mentioning the price paid in flesh and blood. The English generals were unable to exploit the situation and make the hoped for breakthrough. Conditions were so bad, in Flanders, that men and horses, hauling equipment through oceans of mud, stumbled into shell craters and were subsumed into watery graves. The English advanced just 16 miles that year at the cost of another half million casualties. The bloodstains were almost as numerous as the Flanders poppies, which grow in profusion around Passchendaele, a name which can still bring sadness to English hearts.

Through 1917 the German Army stayed mainly on the defensive, in the West, while oddly pursuing the Russians for 100 miles, even though the revolutionaries wanted out. When the Bolsheviks sought peace the Germans occupied a million sq. miles, from the Baltic to the Black Sea, with a view to annexation. The High Command was staffed with members of the landed Junkers families, who wanted to establish new estates for colonisation. Their greed was their downfall. The stupid policy probably lost them the war, for well in excess of one mil-

lion men were required to garrison the territory, a force which might well have tipped the balance in Germany's favour on the Western Front, while the Americans had not yet arrived.

In July 1917 a majority in the Reichstag voted to seek peace, but the generals were firmly in control and they declared the war must be fought to a Victory Peace. Woodrow Wilson, President of the US, had offered to mediate, but at the same time as Ludendorff submitted his terms he also declared 'total war' in the seas around England and France, which later resulted in bringing America into the war, against Germany. U-boat captains could now loose torpedoes without having to identify their targets. Armaments manufacturers in the US, like Remington's, where my father worked, were amassing vast profits from supplying England and France and were insisting on, "The freedom of the seas", to deliver their weapons of death.

Incredibly, the Kaiser learned nothing from the demise of the tsar of Russia and continued living in royal splendour. The German Army had, by then, suffered approximately four million casualties, one third of them fatal, while the population was living on turnips and factory workers toiled on slack bellies. He still went out hunting and held lavish evening parties, as if the war was on another planet. His behaviour was so incongruously out of step, with the plight of the nation, that he was severely censured by his generals.

In the Spring of 1918, Ludendorff asserted Germany could still win the war, before the Americans got over in strength. He was then virtually dictator of Germany. He ordered an all out offensive in March. Spearheaded by the last remaining crack assault troops, 1,000,000 Germans launched the assault along a 50 mile front. They battered their way back to the Marne and the outskirts of Amiens, taking 90,000 English prisoners and retaking the ground lost in the two previous years. The Allied line stretched, but did not crack. After 4 months and 0.5 million casualties the German offensive ran out of steam.

Then the French, with massive American assistance, launched a counter offensive, followed next day by the English and it was all reverse gear for the German soldiers after that. With puny Allies the German Army had fought a gruelling war on many Fronts. Initially the Austrians were repulsed by the Serbs and needed German assistance to overrun Serbia. When Romania attacked Austria, reeling from General Brusilov's massive assault, two

German armies had to be sent to defeat the Romanians and occupy the country. One was under the command of von Falkenhayn, demoted for failing to take Verdun and sent to the Eastern Front. In a succession of bloody battles, over two years, the Italians had pushed back the Austrians and reached the Isonzo river, in a drive on the Austrian port of Trieste. In October 1917 General Karl von Bulow took a German army across the Isonzo and routed the Italians, who gave up in one week their gains since entering the war, which had cost the life blood of 460,000 Italian soldiers.

Ringed round by fire in all directions, from a total of 23 enemy nations, German soldiers were convinced they were fighting for the very existence and survival of their race. Their performance was outstanding. For every one of their 1.8 million dead and 4.1 million wounded they inflicted three times that number of casualties on their enemies. France's losses alone equalled those of Germany, but the unequal odds wore them down and the odds against them multiplied, when the United States entered the war.

Intrigues at the Admiralty, under First Lord Winston Churchill, of secretly transporting munitions on board passenger liners, thereby sacrificing innocent lives on the 'Lusitania', eventually induced America to break her neutrality.

The Americans got off remarkably lightly. Two millions volunteered and another three millions were drafted. Running the gauntlet of the U-boats, not a single troopship was sunk. Very ironically, German Atlantic passenger liners, tied up in New York, were commandeered and converted to troopships for that purpose and with 15,000 men each per trip landed a million and a half Americans in France. Only a small number of their total divisions got to the Front and faced the enemy. The first over enthusiastic arrivals got themselves into serious trouble and suffered severe casualties, before realising they were not over on a Sunday turkey shoot. Less than 59,000 US soldiers were killed in action, not much more than the Irish losses, although a further 14,000 died from wounds, letting the US Army off with by far the lightest casualties.

In a sudden U-turn, Ludendorff informed the Reichstag the war could not be won and ordered them to sue for peace. It had taken the lives of another 200,000 German soldiers, in his last campaign, to prove him wrong. With allies Austria,

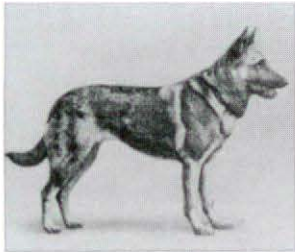
Bulgaria and Turkey collapsing like dominoes there was no hope of fighting on.

The prospect of defeat, presented so suddenly, caused dismay among the population and a feeling of betrayal, by their leaders. The peace negotiations dragged on for three months, while the killing went on. The Kaiser had to go. That was the first demand of the Allies. A republic was proclaimed. The Kaiser had left for Army GHQ in Belgium. It was made clear to him his presence was not welcome there. He boarded his private train and crossed the Dutch border, into a pleasant enough retirement, leaving behind the mess he had helped to create. There he wrote his memoirs, in which he blamed everyone, except himself, for the predicament Germany had got into.

The Armistice was signed and a cease-fire came into effect at 10.11 on the 11th November 1918. For the people of the most advanced countries in the world it was the 11th minute, of 11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month.

While the battles still raged a Spanish 'flu broke out and circled the globe during the Winter of 1918/19, carrying off an estimated 25,000,000 people, most of whom had no resistance left after the privations of four years of warfare. Conservative estimates put the total number of soldiers killed at 10,000,000. Another 20,000,000 men received wounds of varying severity, making a total of 30,000,000 casualties. It is impossible to quantify the numbers who were disordered mentally, or had their physical health seriously impaired by gas and prolonged exposure to inclement weather conditions, who, together with very many of the wounded, suffered premature death. Truly a pyramid of suffering extending to the stars, brought about by the emperors and empire-builders and inflicted on the world population. Never before, in the history of the human race, had so many suffered so much, in the interests of so few. It was a horrendous price to pay, but it brought an end to the era of empire building, toward world domination.

The conflict has been dwelt on, at some length, for two reasons. In 1914 the German Shepherd Dog was in obscurity, in Germany. Four years later the breed was legendary around the world, through service rendered during the conflict. Secondly, to try to convince modern militarists, conditioned by television into believing that war can be a sanitised operation, that warfare is absolute madness and humanity is **always** the loser.



1899 Lisie von Schweningen
SZ 30



1902/03 Hella von Memmingen
SZ 329



1909 Ella von Erlenbrunnen
SZ 4540



1910 Flora von der Kriminalpolizei
SZ 112965



1911/12 Hella von der Kriminalpolizei
SZ 13748



1913 Frigga von Scharenstetten
SZ 18742



1919/20 Anni von Humboldtspark
SZ 66522



1922/1923/1924 Asta von Kaltenweide
SZ 106899



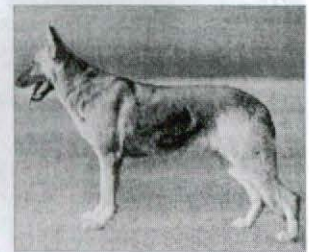
1927 Elly von Fürstensteg
SZ 299846



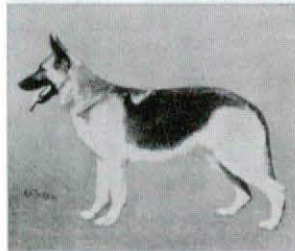
1928/29 Katja von Blasienberg
SZ 336693



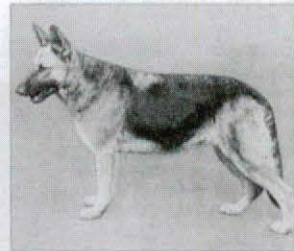
1932 Birke von Blasienberg
SZ 413611



1933 Jamba von Haus Schütting
SZ 424469



Grete von der Raumannskaule
SZ 433216



1935/36 Stella von Haus Schütting
SZ 428493



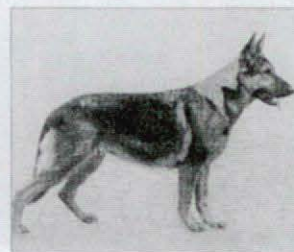
1938 Venus von der Starrenburg
SZ 473105



VA-Gruppe 1941 Asta von Bielefelderland
SZ 522675



VA-Gruppe 1948 Cora von Walburgitor
SZ 610165



VA-Gruppe 1949/50 Werra z.d. Sieben Faulen
SZ 634326



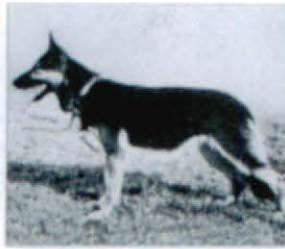
VA-Gruppe 1952/53 Hanna von Equord
SZ 650333



VA-Gruppe 1953/54 Freia von Donaukai
SZ 756654



VA-Gruppe 1953/54 Caret v.
Schloß Grimberg SZ 764373



1955 Muschka von Tempel-
blick SZ 864704



Siegerin 1956 Lore von Tem-
pelblick SZ 855183



1957 Wilma von Richterbach
SZ 893419



1958 Mascha von Stuhri-Gau
SZ 912945



1959 Assja z. Geigerklause
SZ 929832



1960 Inka Grubenstolz
SZ 969715



1961 Assie von Hexenkolk
SZ 920614



1962 Rike von Colonia Agrip-
pina SZ 979540



1963 Maja von Stolper Land
SZ 991118



1964 Blanka von Kibkamp
SZ 1004734



1965 Landa von der
Wienerau SZ 1029754



1966 Cita von Gruchental
SZ 1050514



1967 Betty von Glockenland
SZ 1100442



1968 Rommy von Driland
SZ 1104338



1969 Connie von Klosterbo-
gen SZ 1137451



1970 Diane von der Firnskup-
pe SZ 1133839



1971 Katja
von der
Rheinlese
SZ 1162240



1972 Katinka von der netten
Ecke SZ 1162240



1973 Erka von Fiemereck
SZ 1235231



1975/76 Mosca di Val del
Tiepido LOI 58520



VA-Gruppe 1976/77 Nanni
von Kirschtal SZ 1319313



1978/79 Ute von Trienz-
bachtal SZ 1370881



1980 Dixi von Natoplatz
SZ 1389852



1981 Anusch von Trienz-
bachtal SZ 1431889



1982 Perle von Wildsteiger
Land SZ 1478660



1983 Tannie von Trienz-
bachtal SZ 1482662



1984/1985 Tina von Großen
Sand SZ 1523178



1986 Pischa von Bad Boll
SZ 1530246



1987 Senta von Basilisk
SHSB 379811



1988 Ronda von Haus Beck
SZ 1673403



1989/90 Inka von der Eich-
waldhütte SZ 1695960



1991 Yolli von Kreuzbaum
SZ 1715579



1992/1994 Vanta von der
Wienerau SZ 1763095



1993 Palie von Trienzbachtal
SZ 1756216



1995 Nathalie von der Wie-
nerau SZ 1696277



1996 Quena von Haus Som-
merlade SZ 1901790



1997 Connie von Farbenspiel
SZ 1903611



1998 Anschy von der Magi-
strale SZ 1916398



1. Day's work begins.



2. Caboose in centre background.



3. Opening a gateway.



4. All upstanding ready to march.



5. Beihund goes to the wing.



6. Halbenhund leaps over hurdle.



7. Sheep starting to emerge.



8. No right turn permitted.



9. Still pouring out.



10. All out.



11+12. Dogs race ahead, on both flanks, to new positions at the bridge.



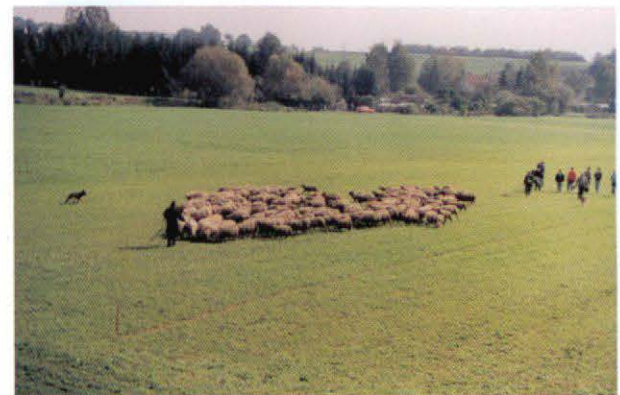
13. Rough grass for starters.



14. Heading for pastures new.



15. Rolling in clover.



16. The Halbenhund is on the wrong side.



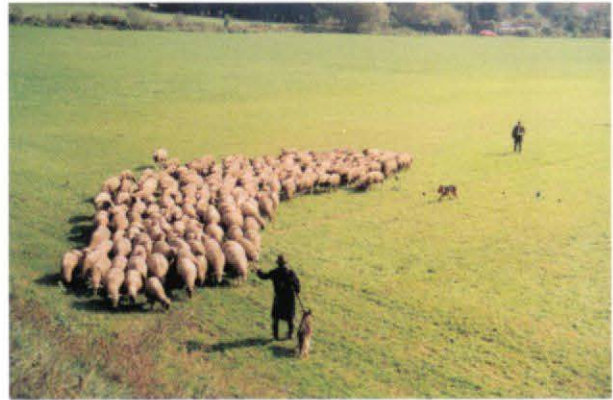
17. *Beihund* patrolling paddock border.



18. *Steering round the bend*



19. *Halbenhund* being outflanked behind.



20. *H'hund* tardy returning to corner post.



21. *Homeward bound.*



22. *Steady the Buffs.*



23. *Howzat? For precision.*



24. *In for the night.*



Competitor at Memmingen 89. The author is on the left.



T. r. Mrs. G. M. Barrington 60 years a member of the SV.



Tomb of Max von Stephanitz bedecked for the centennial anniversary on the 22 April 1999.



The GSD in Kimono Land.



In the Temple.



In the Air.



In the snow covered Alps.



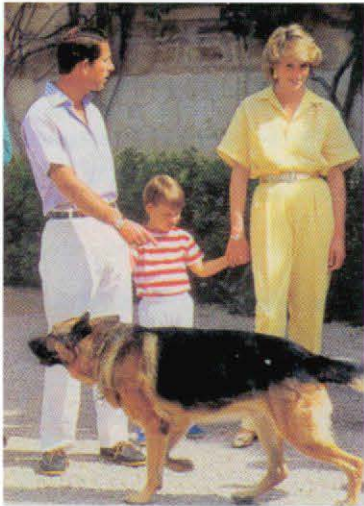
In the Home.



In the Desert.



In the City.



Charles, Diana and their family security dog.



A kiss for the 'Iron Lady', from her bodyguard dog.



Holding a puppy



Shannen Doherty with trained security dog, Elfi, cost DM 36,000

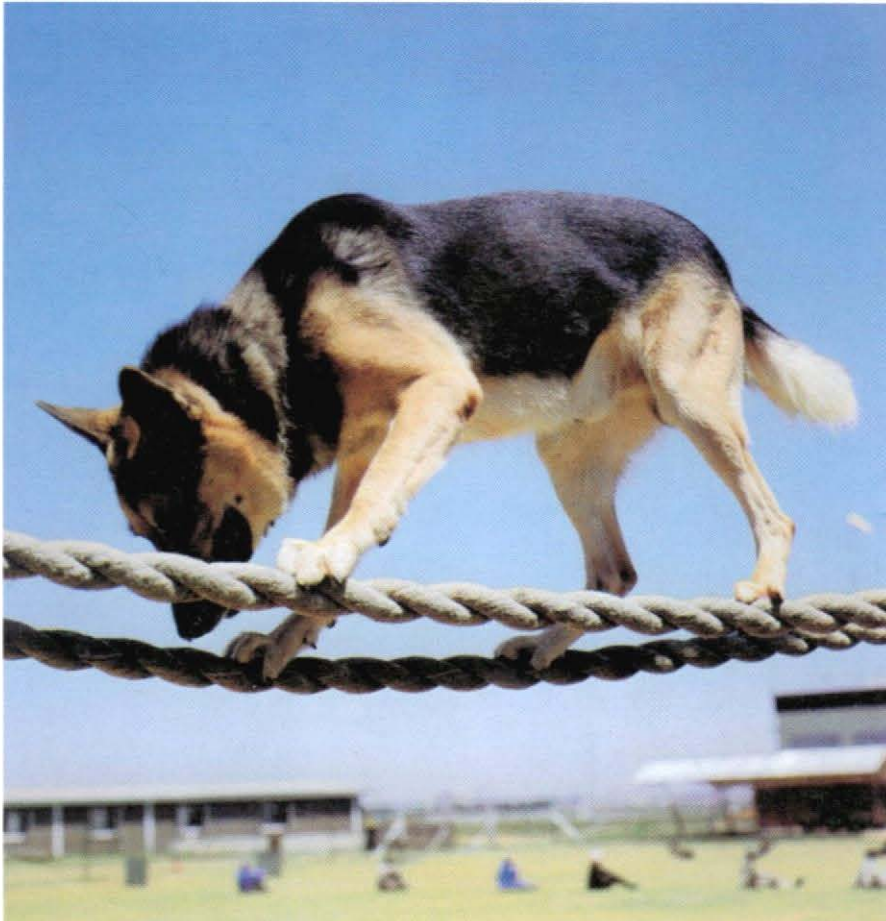


Clemens Lux, Director SV, with Juan Carlos and Sofia of Spain.





"Felix the cat strolling past
dogs of the London
Metropolitan Police"



"They went thisaway".



Shepherdess and dog.



Polizeihund surrounded by retarded children.



Timber wolves in Berlin Zoo.



Blauling = blue puppy.



"And here is the news".



*"Which ?,
Mama".*



Lifeguard Nino towing Sabine Zieper on a water bed.





'Seeing eye' dog in America.



Retrieve. Perfect presentation.



Earthquake in Armenia. Rescue Teams from Germany.

Molesters beware.



Railway security.



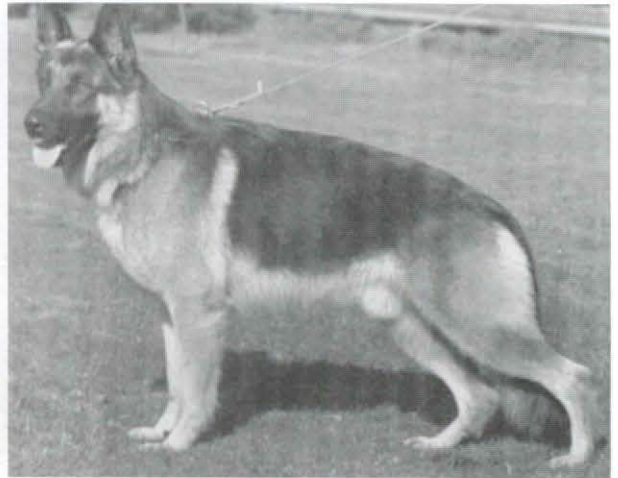
Oncoming traffic, dog sits.



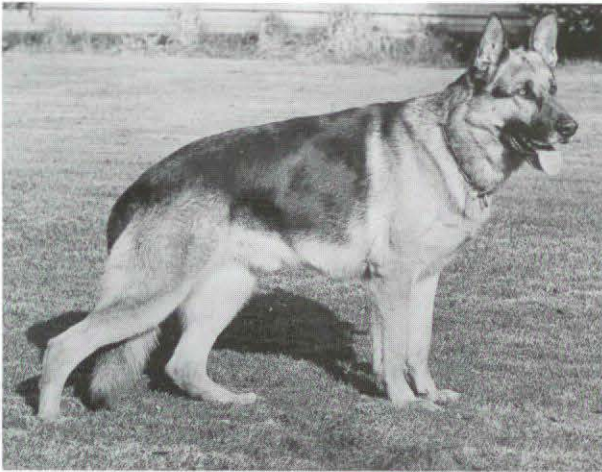
Airport security.



VA2 Quanto v. d. Wienerau



VA Lasso di Val Sole.



Condor vom Sandkotten SchH3 V.



Largetto & Luxus Castlewarden.



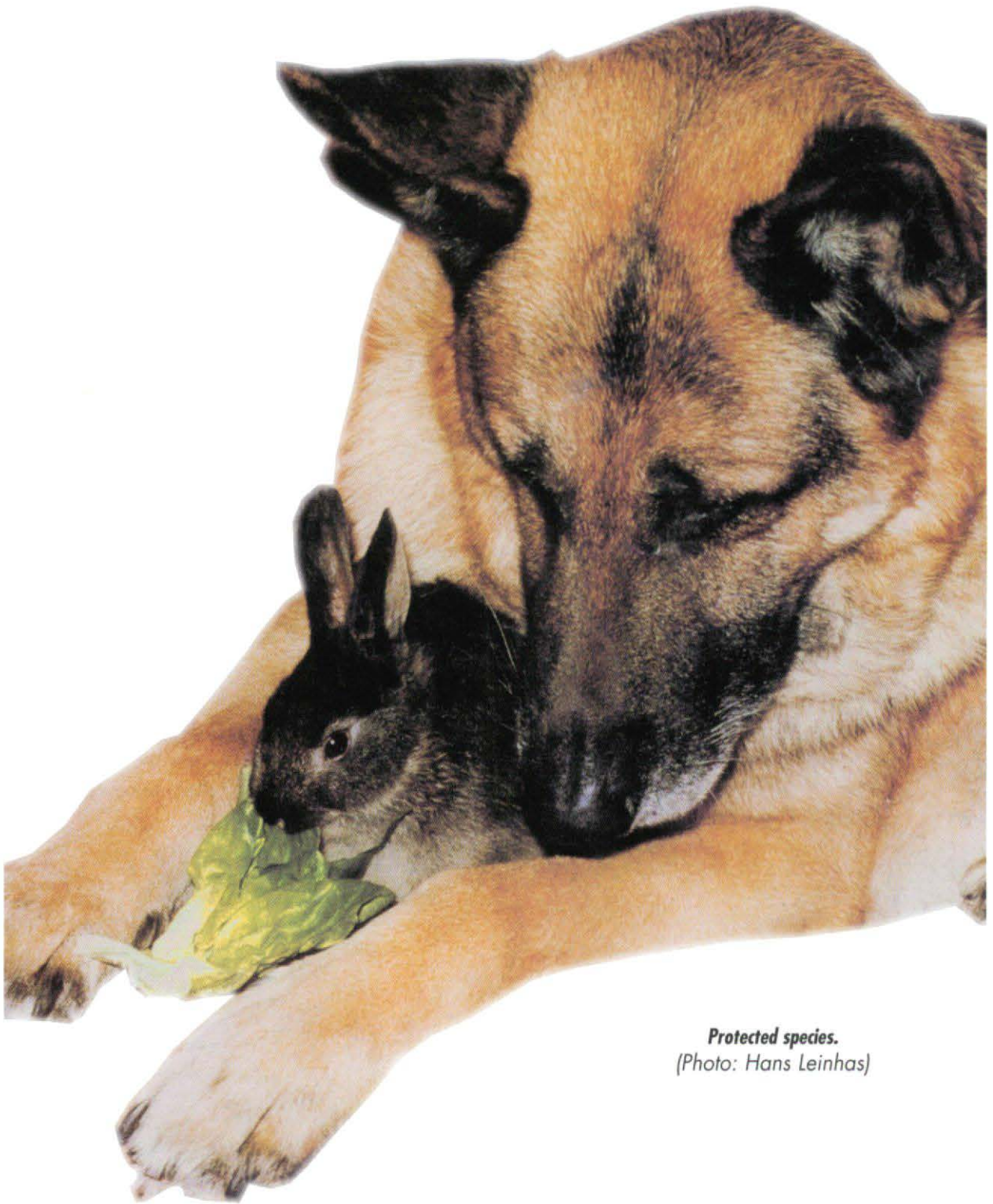
Canto von der Wienerau V1.

A very doubtful dog.



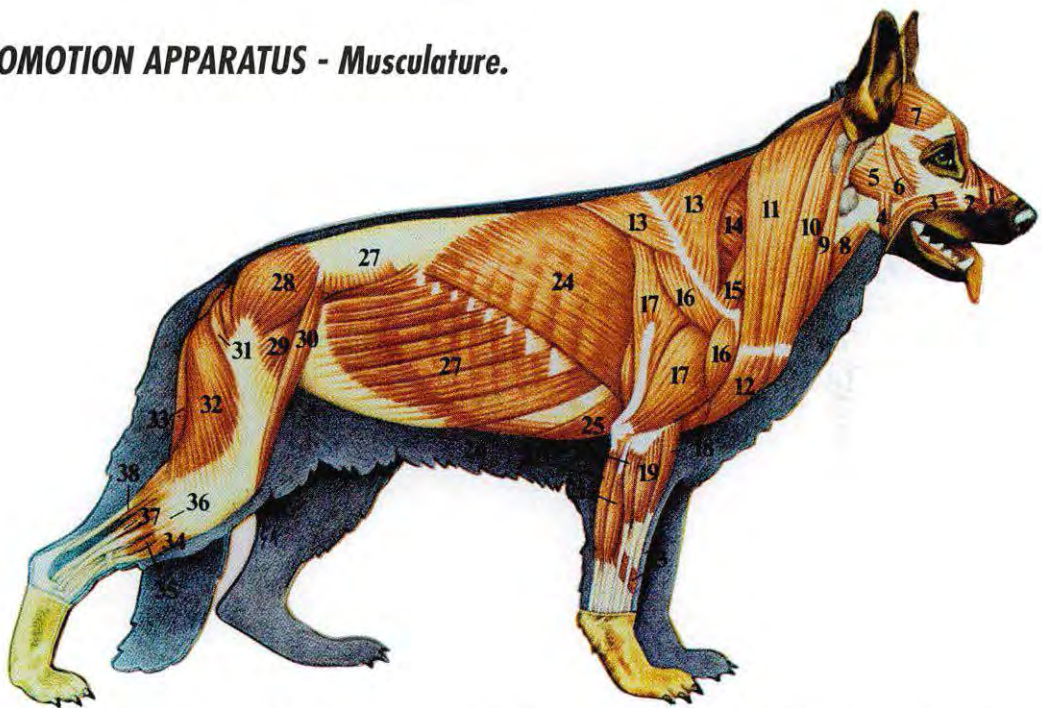
Lido von der Wienerau V.

A dog ahead of his time in the 60's.



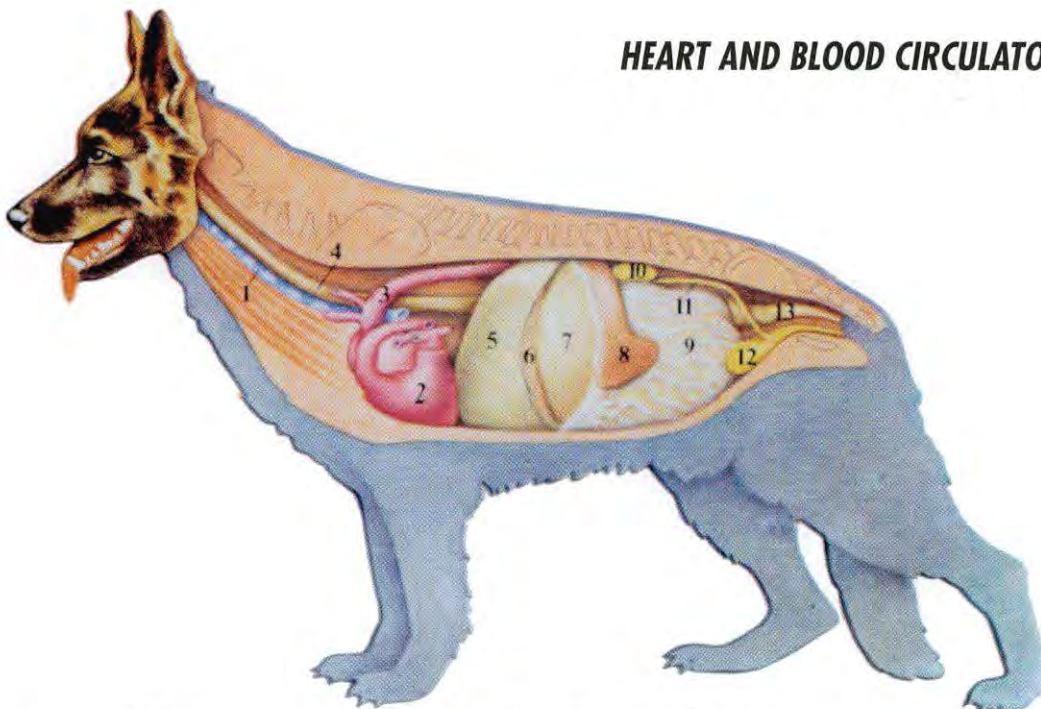
Protected species.
(Photo: Hans Leinhas)

ACTIVE LOCOMOTION APPARATUS - Musculature.



- | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Lip lift & nostril spreading muscle. | 09. Ear folding muscle. | 15. Shoulder - neck muscle | 21. Outer elbow muscle. | 27. Outer abdominal muscle. | muscle. |
| 2. Nose - jaw muscle. | 10. Breastbone - head muscle. | 16. Delta muscle. | 22. Inner elbow muscle. | 28. Mid croup muscle. | 34. Anterior shin muscle. |
| 3. Lip closing muscle. | 11. Keybone - neck muscle | 17. Triceps muscle. | 23. Long 'thumb' outwards extensor. | 29. Caudal muscle. | 35. Long toes extensor muscle. |
| 4. Jowl muscle | 12. Keybone - upper arm muscle | 18. Outer radial muscle. | 24. Broad back muscle. | 30. Tailor muscle. | 36. Long calf muscle |
| 5. Outer chew muscle. | 13. Trapeze muscle. | 19. Combined toes extensor muscle. | 25. Deep chest muscle. | 31. Upper - croup muscle. | 37. Deep toes flexor muscle. |
| 6. Yoke muscle. | 14. Deep meshed muscle. | 20. Toes lateral extensor muscle | 26. Straight abdominal muscle. | 32. Upper thigh biceps muscle. | 38. Achilles tendon. |
| 7. Temporal muscle. | | | | 33. Semimembranous | |
| 8. Breast - throat muscle | | | | | |

HEART AND BLOOD CIRCULATORY SYSTEM



- | | | | | | | |
|------------|---------------|--------------|------------|--------------|-------------|-----------|
| 1. Trachea | 3. Aorta | 5. Diaphragm | 7. Stomach | 9. Intestine | 11. Urethra | 13. Colon |
| 2. Heart | 4. Oesophagus | 6. Liver | 8. Spleen | 10. Kidney | 12. Bladder | |

ACTIVE LOCOMOTION APPARATUS - *Musculature.*

The nomenclature is simpler than the more formal nouns, which require a knowledge of Latin to grasp the functions the muscles perform. Muscles are numerous in type and size and perform many functions. They divide into 2 groups. The autonomic nervous system controls the heart, etc., at a subconscious level. Those illustrated are the active muscles which engage in moving attachments, ears, jaws, limbs, etc. They are mostly antagonistic muscles, so the attachment can be swung one way and then the other. They have anchorage at various points of the skeleton and some connect directly to the attachments they manipulate, while others are

connected by tendons and sinews running in special ducts right to the ends of the limbs to twiddle the toes. The brain activates the muscles by electric impulses sent over the nervous system to neurotransmitters which produce chemical reactions in the muscle tissue which causes clumping as tubules in the tissue contract, like folding telescopes. This clumping of the muscle tissue results in traction being exerted, via the sinews, or tendons, which has the effect of drawing the attachment in the desired direction. The cerebellum of the brain controls most muscular functions, especially those maintaining balance.

HEART AND BLOOD CIRCULATORY SYSTEM

The circulation of blood remained for long a mystery, baffling physicians who thought it just ebbed and flowed, like the tide, until just a few hundred years ago an English physician proved otherwise. The flexing of a powerful muscle, the heart, sends the blood coursing through the circulatory system, supplying nutrients to every cell in the body and carrying away waste. Veins collect used blood from tiny capillaries and then merge, like streams into a river, carrying the blood back to the heart. The heart is a four chambered pump which pushes the blood along by muscular contraction similar to clenching a fist. In fact the size of the heart approximates that of the fist of the individual, the heart of the dog being proportionately smaller. The heart makes two contractions on every beat, first a slight one followed quickly by a more powerful one. The muscle relaxes momentarily between each beat. While resting the returning blood flows into the atrium at the top on the right side. A squeeze sends it down into the right ventricle and another squeeze sends the used blood along the pulmonary arteries, to the lungs, for purification.

There, in thousands of alveoli, which are tiny air sacs encircled by blood capillaries, carbon dioxide in the blood is discharged into the lungs and exhaled, in exchange for oxygen from the air. The bright red oxygenated blood is collected in veins which return it to the heart, left side atrium this time. The heart, and many of the blood vessels are

fitted with one-way valves to prevent a back flow, ensuring the blood always goes in the correct direction, so when the heart contracts the blood cannot escape and is driven down through the tricuspid and mitral valves into the right and left ventricles respectively. The two valves then slap shut as a more powerful muscular contraction pushes the trapped blood through the valves into the pulmonary arteries to the lungs and through the aorta, the main artery, to the rest of the body.

The circulatory system has a down side, in that it is responsible for transporting pathogens to their favoured locations, to begin their work of destruction, but, in addition to the many other constituents, the blood contains phagocytes, leukocytes and other antibodies to destroy many of the pathogens.

When a vein is punctured blood flows steadily, under no great pressure, but when an artery is damaged the blood squirts out under pressure and the haemorrhaging is much more serious and may require the application of a tourniquet between the heart and the injury. Many things can be used as a ligature, wrapped around a limb and twisted tightly. Such a binding should not be left on for very long periods, but slackened for a few seconds every few minutes, so as not to completely starve the limb of blood. Treatment like that will greatly reduce the loss of blood, in an accident, until veterinary assistance is reached and may save a life.

10 RESCUE DOGS

Going to the aid of fellow humans in distress has been regarded a noble act since the dawn of civilisation. Continuing care of the indisposed, was a lot less glamorous, until the Italian born nurse, Florence Nightingale, bless her memory, made nursing a honourable profession. The care of soldiers wounded in battle is a relatively modern phenomenon. Before she took an interest in them, during the Crimean War, the plight of wounded soldiers was incredibly grim. Unless able to hobble of the battlefield their chances of survival were slim to zero. Of no further service to the war lords, who had brought them to their predicament, they were simply left to perish and rot where they lay.

Those who did receive attention, from the surgeons of the day, might have been better off without it. Amputations were performed without anaesthetics. Something hard was placed between the teeth, from where we get, 'biting the bullet'. Three or four men pinned down the patient while "Sawbones" worked away with a rusted and blood stained saw, which was never sterilised. Likely, as not, the agony endured was all in vain, for septicaemia, or gangrene, was bound to set in, where there was total ignorance of aseptic procedures. No one gave a damn about them anyway, because soldiers were 10 a penny and when wounded were worthless to their employers.

After the Battle of Waterloo, ghouls, armed with pliers, moved among the fallen, yanking out the teeth of the dead and those too weak to resist. Just over 50 % of the 141,000 participants 'fell', so there was lots of work to do. Mostly young men with sound teeth, they provided a store which kept the makers of dentures and 'false teeth' supplied for many years after. It was convenient that they died far from home, for who would provide pensions for them when the war was over ? That was all the smart uniforms, flag waving, drum beating and marching came to. When the battle was over, lost or won, the kings, queens, lords and princes, had no more use for their pawns in the game of war.

Soon after Florence Nightingale highlighted the plight of wounded soldiers, a Swiss doctor, Henri Dunant, attended the wounded at the Battle of Solferino, 1859, near Verona, Italy, between the Austrians and Emperor Napoleon III of France, who was upholding the family reputation for warfare. In

his book, *Un Souvenir de Solferino*, published three years later, the good doctor proposed an international agency for the care of wounded and prisoners-of-war. His suggestion was taken up immediately and the International Red Cross Organisation was founded at the Geneva Conference, in 1864.

Under the banner of the Red Cross, high-minded individuals involved themselves in taking care of the consequences of the frequently recurring wars. With limited resources the philanthropists often could do little more than offer a token service, as many of the colonial wars were fought out in very remote parts of the globe. Their efforts were generally limited to hospital visits. First aid and collection of the wounded was still left to the fighting men on the spot.

When Queen Victoria made war on the Boers, not because the ordinary decent people of England needed more land in Africa, but because Cecil Rhodes and a bunch of mining moguls wanted to amass private fortunes from the gems and gold they hoped to find there, collection and care of the wounded posed major problems.

The Boers were taken to be ignorant peasants, by the speculators, but the defence they put up proved otherwise. They were crack marksmen with the rifle and the English soldiers in scarlet uniforms made excellent targets. It was almost a pigeon shoot, until the

English got out of scarlet and into much less spectacular drab battle dress. As a result of the unexpected resistance the war dragged on for years, giving the rescuers time to catch up, but collecting the wounded in the African vegetation proved difficult. Eventually Collie dogs were brought down and tried, but it is unclear to what effect, presumably the conflict ended before proper training techniques were devised.

The SV was founded at the time of the Boer War and it was not a question would there be a major European war, but when would it break out. Germany had joined England, France, Japan, Russia and the United States, all aggressively extending their empires by force of arms. Sooner, rather than later, their interests were bound to clash and lead to a major war between the giants. Adding to the risks and increasing the danger to Germany, the Kaiser

could not resist poking his nose into every international dispute, no matter how trivial, or far removed from the best interests of his own nation.

The German Red Cross was training paramedics to work with horse drawn four wheeled wagons, as ambulances, a rough ride on the smoothest of roads and as early as 1893 established an Ambulance Dog training centre at Oldenburg, near Bremen, which proved to be something of a sinecure, never having more than 6 to 12 dogs, a number that was totally inadequate for the scale of the conflict which was looming ahead.

The establishment at Oldenburg was largely the brainchild of the philanthropist and animal artist, Bungartz. As sometimes happens, it proved to be a brilliant idea rather lacking in practical application. As director, he set his face against accepting local breeds, even when offered free, preferring to pay big Marks for Rough Collies, then regarded in official German circles as the working dog *par excellence*. The Rough Collie was a herding dog and **had** been an intelligent breed, until the show fraternity got hold of it, with plans for its **improvement**, by crossing with the Deer Hound, from a far different sector of the species. Somewhere, in this unscientific experiment, the mental chip, carrying most of

the Rough Collie's attributes and talents, for herding, got wiped clean and 'Lassie' was left with the intelligence of a Deer Hound, which just chased after things that ran.

When the SV was formed, to spread the Gospel according to Max, ambulance rescue was seen as the pinnacle to which the German Shepherd Dog breed could aspire. Approaches were made and CVs submitted, but all to no avail, for the director sternly set his face against the local riffraff, giving all his vacancies to Rough (Lassie type) Collies. They say it is hard to be a prophet in one's own land and that certainly applied to the German Shepherd Dog, in Germany, before the first great war.

Undeterred by the rebuff, which served to stiffen their resolve, members of the SV started their own rescue dog training. Non farming members, looking for activities to keep their dogs active and mentally alert, saw search and rescue training as a very worthwhile activity, alongside personal protection and police work. Qualified dogs were awarded the note, Sanitaetshund, SH, in acknowledgement of the connection with the Red Cross.

The SV was holding a handful of aces, they had the most intelligent dogs, enthusiastic owners and shepherds, with generations of experience in train-

a. Sanitaetshund Silva finds a casualty.

b. Silva picks up the Bringsel.

c. "Zuruck" and Silva leads the rescuers back. From WW 2.



a.



b.



c.

ing dogs, who were only too willing to demonstrate how to motivate them. They were adopting the motto, which General Robert S. S. Baden-Powell gave to his Boy Scouts, "Be prepared".

Powell, a militarist and empire-builder, who participated in the Boer War, had little thought for casualties and only concerned about preparing young boys for war, to grow up and become soldiers and kill other young men, of the same age. His aims were to produce better officer material, through scout training, to redress the glaring inadequacies in the British Army, exposed by the poor performance in South Africa. Thankfully the Boy Scouts organisation discarded his militarism a long, long time ago.

On the other side, members of the SV were concerned about and preparing to pick up the pieces, from the conflicts Powell and his ilk were instigating. When war came, some years later, they had a goodly number of trained SH dogs and handlers ready to go to work with the German Red Cross, but opposition to their employment stubbornly persisted. The medical authority of the German Army was hard to convince and not until July 1914, only 3 weeks before war broke out, did they agree to accept rescue dogs. Consequently the dogs were not in use during the advance through Belgium into France, where conditions were favourable for their employment. The German Army quickly took control of operating the Sanitaetshunde and established a training centre in Potsdam.

Army regulations stipulated that, after fighting, each unit must search its area for the collection of wounded. While fighting raged, during daylight, collection of the wounded was, generally, deferred and conducted under cover of darkness. The work had to be done silently and without showing lights, when within range of the enemy, for any indications of activity would invite a hail of fire. Humans are hampered by darkness and greatly at a loss searching under those conditions, for persons too weak to call out. Darkness makes little difference to the dog, because he relies far less on sight and much more on the senses of smell and hearing, which makes him an excellent searcher by night.

SH dogs worked in tracking harness, which strapped on around the body like a waistcoat, to which the 10 m. tracking leash could be attached. A search detail of handler, dog and stretcher bearers was given a section to clear. The dog was released and when given the command, Seek, set off to search the area ahead, quartering perhaps 100

metres to left and right. On finding a casualty the dog picked up in its mouth an item of the man's equipment, for instance his helmet, returning with it to the handler. The long leash was then clipped on and the dog urged, "Zuruck", to lead them back to the victim.

Wounded persons give off a distinctive odour, which the dogs learned to distinguish, enabling them to ignore the uninjured and also the corpses of those who were beyond all human assistance. Few inventions, or innovative ideas, are introduced, or put into practise, without some hitch occurring and Sanitaetshunde were no exception to the rule. Soon after they went into service a shortcoming in their training began to show up. When there was no loose equipment lying about and eager to bring back evidence to show they had made a find, dogs were resorting to pulling off wound dressings. That had to stop and be rectified, because it could cause further loss of blood and panic.

The 'bringsel' was introduced and the training programme altered. Dogs in service were recalled and retrained. The 'bringsel' was a sausage shaped appendage dangling from the dog's collar. On finding an injured person the dog lowered its head sniffing around the causality. The 'bringsel' was then resting on the ground, ready for the dog to pick it up with the teeth. The device had very obvious risks and shortcomings, yet the German Army Red Cross persevered with it, right to the end of World War II. Around 4,000 German Shepherd rescue dogs served during the first World War and the number of casualties they were instrumental in locating, and lives saved thereby, was very great.

DISASTER SEARCH DOGS

Moving on, to World War II, when London was receiving a pounding during the *blitz*. Nightly the Luftwaffe droned overhead, showering down incendiary and high explosive bombs, against which old brick built houses hadn't a chance. The metropolis was being converted into a waste land of craters and rubble mountains. Rescue services were stretched way beyond their capacity. Fire fighting made enormous demands on the manpower available. Most of the population were living like moles, going underground in shelters and tube stations, to emerge in the morning to fresh damage and new conflagrations. Many, jaded by their exertions, risked the bombs for a comfortable bed. When a building collapsed there was no way of knowing how many people were trapped, unless still able to call out. Short of turning

over every pile of rubble there was no certainty victims were not trapped in cellars or basements. That was out of the question while fires raged, burst gas and water mains had to be attended to first. Anyway people buried under rubble were usually at the deepest part, huddled in Anderson shelters. It disturbed many minds thinking that people, trapped like that, faced a lingering death, possibly being gnawed on by rats while still alive.

In man's worst adversity he becomes inspired and can be most resourceful. Someone thought of using dogs. Dog owners who had trained their dogs to track volunteered and Alsatians, as the breed was then known in England, were forthcoming and foremost. One outstanding bitch, Crumstone Irma, owned and trained by Mrs Griffen, winning the Dickin Medal, awarded to dogs, during the war years, "For courage and devotion to duty above the ordinary". She helped in locating 233 entombed persons. Unfortunately only 21 were extricated alive and survived. Dickin Medals were hard won. One citation reads, "The ruins still burned and hot asphalt fell on the dog during the search. 14 people were found".

Disasters, in more recent times, have afforded opportunities to add further laurels to the GSD breed, by the Disaster Rescue Dogs. In Friaul, over a 5 day period 5 alive and 125 dead were recovered and in Bucharest, 9 alive and 97 dead during a search of 4 days.

In Germany an organisation with an imposing title, *Bundesverband fuer den Selbstschutz* = Federal Association for Self Protection, was formed in 1954, with the collaboration of the railway police, on *Bundesbahn* lands at Cologne. Since then over a dozen private clubs have been formed by volunteers. They operate under the auspices of the *Verband fuer den Rettungsbundewesen*. Money is so scarce, for this work of vital importance to humanity, that the volunteers pay DM 1,000 and their own travelling expenses to attend a two weeks course.

Training courses are tough and made as realistic as it is possible, to simulate a catastrophe. To start with, dogs must have excellent 'noses' and work calmly and intently, in all manner of distractions. Handler and dog must work in complete harmony, in a full and equal partnership, to become a team.

It usually takes upwards of 18 months regular training to attain full proficiency.

Scientifically controlled tests have been carried out in which rescue dogs were pitted against the most sophisticated technology. Twelve teams with

dogs had a success rate of 91 %, at a depth of three and a half metres, in an average time of six minutes. The success rate for technology was only 30 per cent, in a much longer time. Furthermore, absolute quiet was required and that just could not be guaranteed in a disaster zone. The tests proved, beyond any shadow of a doubt, that the German Shepherd Dog remains peerless the world over in disaster rescue search.

The handler must understand canine psychology, work alone, or with others in a team and cooperate with other rescue services, even where language is a barrier. Training can not be let slide and is ongoing, all year round, with an annual refresher course of from 10 to 14 days. Handlers are a heroic group of people, like lifeboat crews. Travel bags are kept packed, travel documents in order and vaccinated up to the eyeballs, they are ready, at a moment's notice, to drop their normal activities and stand by for the fastest transport to the newest disaster, which can be in any part of the world. Teams from Germany have gone to floods in Italy, earthquakes in Armenia, Mexico City, N. Yemen and elsewhere.

It happens everywhere, when a buck can be made. Cowboys set themselves up in institutes giving courses and issuing spurious certificates. Quite a storm of protest blew up when it emerged one of those shaky establishments was using human off cuts from a southern German hospital. Well the amputees had no further use for the parts so the sponsors of the courses saw no harm in using them to make a Mark, Deutsche that is.

AVALANCHE RESCUE DOGS.

When one thinks of rescue, by dogs in snowstorms, the picture most likely to come to mind is the St. Bernard, the brown and white friendly giant, as big as a Shetland Pony and beloved by cartoonists, with the little keg of five star dangling on his collar. The breed became legendary when the monks, who maintained hostels high up in the Alpine passes to succour travellers crossing the inhospitable mountains, sent them out in snow blizzards to rescue people who had fallen into snow drifts. Records kept at the monastery over the centuries showed thousands of travellers had been saved by the St. Bernard dogs.

Their fame led to a demand for puppies and St. Bernards travelled to many parts of the world. We must hope this interest continues, to keep this magnificent breed viable, now that it has been retired



Searching a crevasse.

from the honourable service it provided, for the monks and the 'Bern's' have given way to the better equipped Mountain Watch, using Shepherd Dogs.

Each of the countries sharing the Alps has a contingent of the Mountain Watch, extremely brave men who know and understand the beautiful, if at times treacherous, mountains and are organised and ready to risk their own lives going to the aid of others. They are accompanied by their helpers, the Avalanche Rescue Dogs, who are exclusively German Shepherd Dogs. From France to Slovenia there are approximately 1,000 dogs involved. Austria and Switzerland, with the greatest share of Alps, each has around 300 Avalanche Rescue Dogs.

The men and dogs operate in the foulest weather, on terrain so inhospitable it has to be seen to be believed, in temperatures often way below zero. When accidents happen, and they frequently do, it may involve 'walking' down a vertical cliff face, on the end of a rope, with the dog resting across the thighs, to search a crevasse where climbers have fallen, or an avalanche, aware of the banks of over-

hanging snow on the peaks far above and acutely conscious that a sudden thunder clap, even a shout, reverberating off the mountainsides, could cause masses of snow and ice to detach and come crashing down, faster than an express train, adding the rescuers to the total of victims. The men travel light and travel fast. Every item of equipment has to be of the highest quality and absolutely essential, to be brought along and that applies equally to their helpers, the rescue dogs, who are certainly not brought along just for the ride.

The greatest adjunct and ally of the Mountain Watch, in combating the "White Death" are the German Shepherd Avalanche Rescue Dogs. Possibly, in this service above all others, the wisdom of the SV Breed Standard is borne out and ALL other specifications and designs for the breed shown up for what they are, dangerous fallacies.

They must have short thick coats to protect from frost and snow, without forming icicles, or dangle berries of dirt. Display constant eagerness for work. Have excellent noses for scenting. Agreeable to travel by any means, such as motorcycle, helicopter, in the arms, on the shoulders. That doesn't go anywhere near exhausting the list of talents and advantages of the German Shepherd Dog for this most demanding service.

Training, for the dogs, is basically the same as the other rescue services. It starts early with the puppy playing games. The trainee is held by an assistant while his handler or owner walks off in the snow. At an appropriate distance the dog is released and urged to 'search'. He knows where the handler has gone and bounds off after him. Each time it is made a little harder, but not so much that the novice will fail and be discouraged. Then the 'victim' will go well out of sight, zigzag and throw himself in the snow. After that he is buried in the snow, then a second 'victim' is buried with the first, to show the dog other people can play the game, too. When the dog knows the game is all about finding people buried in snow, he will work with his handler, knowing he will be praised and rewarded for finding them.

The director of the German Mountain Watch said that it was much easier to find a good dog, than to find a good handler to work with the dog. Just like educating humans, aptitude tests are carried out, to ensure only the best dogs go forward for more intensive training. That would involve his handler running a hundred metres, with the dog in his arms. Hoisted up or lowered down a cliff face lying on his



Alpine peaks pickup.

handler's lap. Winched up into a helicopter, in his handler's arms, or jump from it while hovering off the ground and in all sorts of exciting activities they will travel on skidoos or snow mobiles.

At the behest of his handler, a qualified Avalanche Rescue Dog will search a snow field, which is the scene of a disaster, to locate anything bearing human scent buried there. That could be a person still alive, a body, or artefacts like a rucksack, scarf, camera, etc. Even after being buried for days a good dog can still pick up the scent. Post qualification training will continue for the remainder of the dog's working life, a maximum of six years.

Helicopter flying can be a stiff test of character, yet most of the dogs get 'hooked' on it and regard the prospect of a flight with great excitement. Which should confound the critics of the breed, fond of reiterating in their ignorance, that the German Shepherd Dog is 'a nervous breed'. How many of those idle tongued critics would duck under the whirling rotors of a helicopter, ignoring the down draught and rattling noise and pile into a tiny compartment, dogs and men packed tightly together, to be whisked up in a neurophysiological test severe enough for astronauts, to a landscape which suggested the world had split apart, putting all the level surfaces on edge ?.

THE HERO OF DACHSTEIN.

In 1954 a party of 11 school goers and 2 teachers from Heilbron, Germany, got caught by a severe blizzard in the Dachstein Alps, South of Salzburg, Austria. When the alarm went out rescuers made

their way to the general area. Their efforts were hampered by the foul weather, but worse than that, they didn't know exactly where to search. As time passed all hope of rescue alive faded, but still the search was carried on. After the shock of tragedy has been absorbed, the next concern of relatives is the speedy recovery of the bodies of their dear ones, that they may be 'laid to rest'. Search dogs have an immense role to play in this very humanitarian, if tragically gruesome work.

The searchers were four days at the scene and had found nothing. Avalanche Rescue Dog, Ajax, had been with them all of that time. He was now limping, his paws red raw. The snow had frozen rock hard and all the scraping and scratching had left his paws in tatters. Taking pity on him the rescuers made him comfortable and closed him up in their tent, but Ajax would have none of that. He forced his way out of the tent and went to a sector which had not been searched and started digging, with his tender paws, to reach the first body. The rescuers came to help him and now digging with certainty, soon uncovered all thirteen bodies, bringing the search to a successful conclusion.

When caught by an avalanche, life expectancy is very, very slim. Injuries from the impact take a heavy toll and for those buried in soft snow their chances drop alarmingly the deeper they are buried. It is calculated that 75 % die on impact or suffocate in a few minutes. Less than one in four lives for longer than 15 minutes. After that the graph line continues to drop sharply, as the minutes tick by. To have the slightest chance of saving lives the rescuers must arrive in the shortest time possible and go directly to the exact spot. All things considered, hoping to be rescued from an avalanche would be expecting a miracle to happen. Yet sometimes it does happen.

A SUCCESSFUL RESCUE.

Again in the Salzburg area, at Werfenweng, on the 31st January 1982, an avalanche swept down the slopes and in a valley far below engulfed 3 adults and 14 German teenagers. They carried electronic devices which began emitting signals of distress, which were picked up by highly sophisticated monitoring equipment, which accurately pinpointed the disaster area. Almost instantly rescuers were alerted and on the way, by helicopter, skidoo, skis, anything, in a mad dash. In all 300 men and 38 dogs converged on the half mile wide valley. Four extremely lucky people were dug out of the snow

in time to save their lives. This amazing success was made possible only by the utmost efficiency, at all stages, of the rescue services and that included the GSD Avalanche Rescue Dogs accurately spot marking where each victim lay buried.

The *modus operandi* of dogs differs and each preference, by the dog, for tracking is fully utilised in rescue from snow among the mountains. When the rescue teams reach the scene a rapid search is made by a dog with *hoben nase*. With nose held clear of the snow this dog trots briskly, zigzagging to left and right, rapidly covering the disaster area. He can pick up the scant of bodies near the surface, who consequently have the best chance of being alive and surviving, if reached in time. After that, dogs with *tiefen nase* move in with noses pressed into the snow, to make a metre by metre search.

Frequently the dog will dig down, to get a better concentration of scent particles to convince him someone is deep down there at perhaps 2, 3 or 4 metres. The record is held by a German Shepherd Dog, for indicating the presence of a body under 5 metres of snow.



Ruben, buried for 100 hours in the ruins of Spitak.

Following the 1988 earthquake, 12 dog and handler teams flew from Germany to Armenia. The youngest team was schoolgirl Meike Harbs (17) and GSD Anka. Four days after the shock, Helmut May, Kirschheim, with his female GSD, were working through the ruins of Spitak, when Hexe gave positive indications of human scent. Four hours excavating, with a crane, shovels and bare hands, uncovered inhabitant Ruben, who had lain entombed for 100 hours. Timber beams, which had arched above him, had supported five metres of rubble. Hexe was celebrated the heroine of that day.

Being excellent swimmers and fond of water, German Shepherd Dogs might be expected to make good life guards too. It has been tried and proven that they can rescue people in difficulties in

the water and tow them to safety, but has not, however, become an organised rescue service. A major problem to overcome, is that the dog must take a firm grip on the drowning person, which is likely to cause pain and may add to the drowning person's panic. Perhaps some innovative person will come up with a way around that, like the dog towing a life buoy out to the person in distress and then towing back the buoy with the person clinging on, which will open up a new sector of rescue activity for our excellent breed.



3 years old Emilia Como, pulled from the flames by Rocky, the GSD. Taken from the Napels Evening News, 21 May 1986

Truly extraordinary rescues by German Shepherd Dogs, reported in the press, have been picked up by the SV Zeitung, Naples Evening News, July 1986. In a slum quarter of Naples, Guiseppa Como (29) was cooking for her two children, in their 4 x 4 metres apartment, when a gas flash set the room alight. Guiseppa fled outside in panic and looking back saw the furniture alight. Realising the children were still in there she started repeatedly calling their names. Then Rocky, the German Shepherd Dog, came and sprang into the flames and soon returned hauling three years old Emilia. Immediately the dog went back inside searching for the older child, who was in bed with a fever. Suddenly six years old Patrizia was beside her mother, having made her own escape, but Rocky died in the flames still searching for her. Fire-fighters found his charred body among the debris.

From the Detroit Express dated 26 10 1986. A woman was brought into hospital. She was unconscious having just given birth. Police were sent to her address. In a lane way they found the infant **and** a German Shepherd Dog. Fearing the worst, the patrolman's heart almost stopped, but he had nothing to fear, for the dog had licked the baby dry and was caring for it, curled around it imparting body warmth. Hospital staff reckoned the dog saved the infant's life.

11 THE AFTERMATH

The first great war was over. Max von Stephanitz returned to his home in Bavaria, to much reduced financial circumstances. The von Grafrath kennel books remained closed, for he did not resume breeding German Shepherd Dogs on his own behalf. He directed all his energy and talents into reorganising the SV. Membership was badly hit by the war. There were 116 fatal casualties among the members. Some, too old for military service, had volunteered to work along with their dogs, with the German Red Cross and while engaged in that noble work had lost their own lives and now lay buried on battlefields far from home. They were the true heroes of war one never hears about, risking their lives to save others. Since it was founded, humanitarian work has been a top priority of the SV. There can be a cost involved and unfortunately those members paid it with their lives.

In the traumatic circumstances, pressing in around him, the farseeing faith of von Stephanitz in the breed and his efforts to reinvigorate the SV, were truly remarkable. He staged the first post-war Sieger Show well within a year of the cease-fire and for six of those months it was touch or go, teetering on a knife edge, whether Germany would follow Russia into Soviet communism. In fact his home State, Bavaria, briefly did become a Soviet Socialist Republic. The orderly withdrawal and demobilisation of the German Army had a steadying influence on the population, as a whole. At all times the army responded to the lawful authority, unlike the navy, which mutinied in the final months of the war, when ordered into the English Channel to relieve the Western Front.

The constitution of the new republic was ratified in Weimar, Central Germany, in 1919. Although the government moved back to Berlin later that year, Germany was known through the twenties as the Weimar Republic. Democracy was a novel concept for the German people, which the majority were eager to embrace, but the tender green shoots never got a chance to flourish. The Allies, needlessly, continued the blockade after the cease-fire and the German Army had demobilised. That amounted to genocide, as Austrian and German children died from starvation during the Winter of 1918/19. Almost 2 million breadwinners were

dead. Millions more were now dependants, requiring food and nursing. On top of that the Allies were demanding Reparations from Germany amounting to the **total** cost, to them, of prosecuting the war. The severity of that demand was justified by the assertion that, "Germany was the sole instigator of the war". A statement no one in their right mind would entertain, for a single moment. At a meeting in Paris, January 1921, the amount was fixed at 226,000,000,000 Marks, to be paid in gold. In 1913 the average annual income was 650 Marks. The Allies were so busy trying to squeeze the lifeblood out of the German people that an event, the previous year, although of the gravest portent, had gone almost completely unnoticed. In February 1920, only 15 months after the cease-fire, Adolf Hitler unveiled his 25 points program in the Hofbrauhaus Bierkeller in Munich.

President Woodrow Wilson had been attracted to the conflict, like a moth to a flame. At first as a peacemaker, but he was biased in favour of England and came in later an enthusiastic ally. His 14 Points Plan was the basis, on which the Armistice was signed, by both sides, to stop the war and end the senseless slaughter. **After** the Germans demobilised their army and were defenceless, the Allies reneged on 13 of the 14 points.

The only one they implemented, was the formation of the League of Nations, which proved to be nothing more than a 'talk shop' for the club of victor nations. That act of bad faith sowed the seeds of another even more disastrous conflagration.

President Woodrow Wilson travelled to Paris to join his Allies, prime minister David Lloyd George and premier Georges Clemenceau, working on the Peace Treaty. The trio were seen in the map room of Versailles Palace, leaning over large scale maps of the Central Powers. Relishing their hour of triumph, they were wielding markers, like medical students in the dissecting hall marking incisions on their cadavers, dismembering and truncating the corpses of the Austrian, German and Ottoman Empires, which now lay prostrate before them, distributing the off-cuts among themselves and their lackeys. The injustice of their handiwork ensured that, "The war to end all wars", was fought in vain

and would be fought all over again in round 2, by the sons of the victims of round 1.

Clemenceau, who was nicknamed 'The Tiger', was intent on annexing the entire left bank of the Rhine, including Cologne, right up to the Dutch border, but the others refused to go that far, but did put the Saar under the newly formed League of Nations.

Germany lost 1.1 million square miles of overseas territories. No great sweat in that, but 27,000 square miles, about equal to the Republic of Ireland, with a population of 6,500,000 was pared off and offered to her neighbours, to reduce Germany in size and strength. The majority of the six and a half millions wished to remain German. In one instance a 50 by 30 mile 'corridor' to the Baltic through Germany, along the right bank of the Vistula, was presented to Poland. There, 9 out of 10 of the population were German and had no desire to become Poles. Exactly twenty years later, Adolf Hitler made this injustice the pretext for invading Poland and thereby starting World War II.

The era of great empires, seeking world domination, thankfully, was coming to a close. Half of them were destroyed by the war. Admittedly the others, gaining territory from the war, took longer to disintegrate. Although not an Englishman, David Lloyd George happened to be the last 'contractor' constructing the British Empire. But as he placed the last blocks of territory in place a crack appeared in the foundations.

At Easter 1916, two months before the bloody debacle on the Somme, a group of about 1,000 idealists staged a rising in Dublin, which had little or no support, as the vast majority of the population of Ireland supported England in the war. The armed band played the game of soldiers, according to the rule book. They issued a Proclamation of Independence and wore uniforms and all that. They put up a stiff fight, inflicting many casualties on the Sherwood Foresters, while the English heavy artillery reduced many fine buildings to rubble, before they made a honourable surrender. But **they** were not treated according to the rules and conventions of war. A tough line was taken by Whitehall and Martial Law was invoked to deal with the 'insurrection' and Courts Martial were set up to deal with the 'insurgents' **after** they had surrendered.

Morning after morning the volleys from the execution firing squads echoed across the city. Those shots by the Sherwood Foresters heralded the

decline and fall of the mightiest empire on earth. Revulsion, at the cold-blooded executions, brought about a sea change in public opinion, but then the English ascendancy never did understand, or care about the Irish. As the World War ended guerrilla warfare broke out in Ireland. What was the point of wearing uniforms when the English didn't play fair in the game of soldiers?.

The tactics worked better. Three years later four fifths of Ireland, which had been there for 600 years, left the empire. Just a chip off the monolith, perhaps, but rivers start from a single raindrop. Ireland's example inspired India, although Mahatma Gandhi's 'civil disobedience' achieved the end result much more peacefully. When the 'jewel in the crown' left, the whole edifice of empire crumbled down, to a few craggy outposts.



GSD in Australia. This one got in before the ban.

The Peace Treaty of Versailles was dictated to the emissaries of the new German Republic. They were not allowed to speak, or make submissions. The terms were incredibly harsh, Germany was stripped of assets, they were accepted under strong protest in the Reichstag, on 28th June 1919, five years to the day since Gavrilo Prinzip, the Serbian murderer, started it all in Sarajevo. What a lot had happened in-between. President Poincare of France, in his obsessive hatred of all things German, was determined to crush the German people into the ground and, to their eternal shame and disgrace, President Wilson and prime minister Lloyd George were only too happy to go along with him.

While the three musketeers were busy emasculating the German people, the country was sliding closer to anarchy. Communist uprisings broke out in Brunswick, Munich, Saxony and Thuringia,

which were quelled by the Reichswehr, the restructured miniaturised army allowed to the German Republic.

Despite the political and economic pressures on Germany, the fame and reputation of the German Shepherd Dog was rapidly ascending to an all time peak of popularity, which was reached in the mid twenties. At home the breed was recognised for the noble service it had rendered through the war years. The breed image had come through the war with an untarnished reputation enhanced a thousand fold. All that von Stephanitz had claimed for the breed had been accomplished, and much more. There was goodwill for the GSD on all sides, for millions of veterans looked on the GSD as an old comrade who had borne the rigours of many campaigns together. Thousands of them quite literally owed their very lives to being rescued by Sanitaetshunde and in more recent times hundreds of totally blinded veterans were participating far more actively in life and were becoming a familiar sight on German streets, confidentially striding along beside their GSD guide dogs. Those dogs were certainly no ornaments and nothing reaches and touches the German heart so deeply as something which has a practical use.

As the war increased in ferocity, the number of soldiers totally blinded by explosions had risen steadily. In 1916, as the conflagration raged around them, the German Red Cross initiated a novel idea, of using German Shepherd Dogs as guides, to help restore mobility to recuperating victims. So began one of the most heart-warming services rendered by dogs to incapacitated human beings. After the war the scheme was taken over and operated by the SV, who provided and trained the dogs. A dozen years later, when the demand was fulfilled, they had supplied over 1,000 trained guide dogs.

Across no man's land Allied soldiers had observed GSDs with keen curiosity and wildly speculated on their resemblance to the wolf. When they had the opportunity they acquired some and took them back home to England and the US, where they created a sensation. They fired the imagination, to the extent their rise in popularity was meteoric, which came close to the ruination of the breed, in Britain, by indiscriminate breeding in ignorance of its *raison d'être*, in the US, by ruthless commercial exploitation and in Germany, by unwelcome political interference and criminal misuse by the Nazis.

In the post war years membership of the SV grew rapidly and breeding increased to meet the growing demand, at home and abroad, for this wonder dog which had become world famous. SV registrations peaked at 57,000 in 1923. Around 30,000 annually is more normal. There is little doubt, in the dire state of the economy, some saw breeding GSDs as a lucrative cash crop and bred solely to supply the market.



The GSD reached New Zealand, as a cattle dog.

Under those conditions the ideals of the SV, on which the breed was founded and came to fame, could easily be lost sight of and let founder. Headquarters was inundated with enquiries, applications for membership and registrations, while von Stephanitz was struggling valiantly to maintain standards and keep the flood tide of novice members headed generally in the right direction. The breed and the society were most fortunate that he had survived the war and was there with a steady hand on the tiller. Without a shadow of a doubt his presence saved the core of the German Shepherd Dog breed from the rapacious exploitation it suffered in other countries, where the breed was adopted so enthusiastically following World War I.

The network of Ortsgruppen, local groups, was expanded steadily and became the organisational backbone of the SV, ensuring success. Novices were made welcome and instructed by more experienced members, in all canine matters, in an ambience of close camaraderie and enthusiasm for the GSD. An Ortsgruppe is a semi-autonomous club within the SV. There are now twenty-two hundred of them in existence. Germany is liberally dotted with them.

Each elects a president, secretary, cashier, breed warden and training instructor. They provide their own facilities, clubhouse and training ground. The ground is often provided by the local city authorities, because the activities of the club are seen to be sporting and recreational. Breed wardens must have expansive knowledge of the breed's 'bloodlines' and offer advice in choosing mating partners. They inspect litters of puppies to see they are up to standard and indicate individuals that should be culled, which would otherwise prove a waste of resources to rear. Tattooists are appointed for the areas and they put a tattoo number, for identification, in the ear of each puppy.

Repeatedly, in books published in English, Max von Stephanitz was portrayed as a dictator, who stalked the length of Germany, imposing his ideas as dictat on the breeders, who were too scared to stand up to him and assert, "The freedom of choice", which obtained among their readership. That allegation was made without ever a critical glance at where the vaunted, "Freedom" was likely to lead, or acknowledge the mess it had made of the breed in the 'tween wars years. Those authors had completely missed the expanse and depth of commitment, which formed the spirit of the SV and running with the notion of a jackbooted Prussian officer, propounded an erroneous misconception of the man.

Shortly after the war ended the Zollamt = Customs and Bundesbahn = Federal Railway, both undertook Schutzhund training using GSDs, for staff protection.

Ankoerung, breed surveying, was introduced, starting with males in 1922 and extended to females in 1923. Mature animals were presented before a breed master and searchingly examined, in every respect, before being passed fit for breeding. A written report on each animal was filed and published at the end of the year in a special Koerbuch.

During those years the entire left bank of the Rhine was occupied by Allied armies, with bridge-heads across the river on the eastern bank. The French tried hard to foster separatist movements, without success and then alleged shortcomings in the Reparations.

The French expected to get good quality coke, for their steel furnaces, from the Ruhr, in exchange for low grade iron ore from Alsace-Lorraine. In January 1923 Poincare, now premier, ordered his French troops to occupy Dusseldorf, Duisburg and Ruhrort and the Ruhr valley to beyond Dortmund,

the very heart of Germany, to compel the Germans to pay up. Later they also occupied Frankfurt and Darmstadt.

The occupation, of the heart of Germany, was met by a general strike. Someone in the Weimar mint thought printing money would finance the strike and slipped the printing presses into overdrive. The Mark had been falling, now it plummeted like it was made of lead, until it reached the all-time exchange rate record of 2,500,000,000 Marks to 1 US Dollar. That's right, two and a half billion Marks to **one** Dollar !.

The strength of the Dollar, vis-à-vis the Mark, placed every dog in Germany easily within the purchasing power of the Americans. Almost every Sieger and many top V dogs of that era boarded the liner in Hamburg, to make a one-way crossing of the Atlantic. It was a golden opportunity, to establish a foundation of the very best stock in the US, but the Americans allowed their obsession with large size to delude them and paid good money for rubbish. They sought after big dogs. The bigger the better, for they recognised no upper limit on size. Tall dogs were going out of favour, in Germany, leaving them virtually worthless. The vendors found it hard to conceal their excitement at the prices they could command for their giants and some were reluctant to breed dogs of a lower stature. So many Dollars were paid out that the Americans convinced themselves they had bought up the essence of the German Shepherd Dog breed and even ventured to print that leadership of the breed had passed to them and now resided in the US. Could they have been more misguided ?. If their claim was justifiable, why then is the Siegerzuchtschau, held in Germany, still the Mecca which attracts purchasers and devotees, in tens of thousands every year, from right around the globe?.

It appears the Americans concentrated on acquiring male dogs and largely ignored the females. Of course getting a good quality breeding bitch from a German is like pulling his teeth out and without anaesthetic too. Americans failed to appreciate that the essence of the breed, just like jewishness, is transmitted through the female line. When you are in possession of a good bitch you can get the services of any dog, for a fee. Annette Broadhurst, Warrington, England, proved that point when she took her bitch, Rosehurst Ramana, halfway across Europe to twice Sieger Uran vom Wildsteiger Land and for her trouble got the best son Uran ever bred, Rosehurst Chris, who won a sack full of C.C.s.

The SV established a research station at Ossig, Niederlausitz, in the southern part of Brandenburg and named it, Ossig Zuchtgut, = Good breed. Ossig was an estate, a very large farm, with horses, sheep and shepherds with dogs, GSDs naturally. Max von Stephanitz was the director in residence. The aims were to carry out experimental breeding and rearing, in scientifically controlled situations, to establish nutritional requirements, etc.. Eventually subjecting the products to aptitude testing in the original employment of the breed, sheep herding. The findings to be made available to members.

The experiment was short-lived. Five litters were bred there and registered A, B, C, D and E vom Zuchtgut. A bitch from the D litter, Dieta vom Zuchtgut Zpr, was brought to England by Miss Workman and became an English champion in 1930.



Max von Stephanitz writing his book on the GSD.
Inset: Zuchtgut Ossig.

The sojourn at Ossig afforded Max an opportunity to revise and enlarge his writings on GSDs in particular, dogs in general and all manner of canines. In regular dictation sessions he expanded, "The German Shepherd Dog in Word and Picture".

When he revised and updated the 8th edition, in 1932, it ran to no less than 1,198, eleven hundred

and ninety-eight pages, in the original German text.

The first edition was translated by himself and published in English around 1919 as, "The German Shepherd Dog", by Capt v Stephanitz. In 1947 the SV, who own the copyright, invited Herr A. Schwabacher to undertake the colossal task of translating the 8th edition. Schwabacher had bred the top ranking, "Secretainerie" dogs in Germany, in the thirties and fled the Nazis to England.

While Max was working on his mammoth tome another author was penning a much slimmer novel, in less salubrious surroundings, which he titled *Mein Kampf*, My Struggle (or Fight), and it certainly had nothing to do with the boxing ring. It was published on the 18th July 1925 and became a best-seller, when it became required reading for every Nazi, making the author, Adolf Hitler, the richest writer in Europe.

Adolf Hitler was born at Braunau, on the Inn river in Austria, on the 20th April 1889, the son of a customs official named Schicklgruber. Heil Schicklgruber!. No, that doesn't sound right. Never would catch on. The family name was changed to Hitler.

Adolf did house decorating before the war. He served as an N.C.O. in a Bavarian regiment fighting on the Western Front. He was partially gassed in the trenches, a sinister omen, which affected his vocal cords leaving him with a distinctive tone of voice.

After demobilisation, he joined the Workers Party, in 1919, becoming an active organiser. The party name was soon changed to the National Socialist Party. Marrying the first syllables phonetically produces, "Nazi". A name never to be forgotten.

Hitler quickly reached the top of that pile and was eager to implement all those 25 points he had unveiled in the Hofbrauhaus Bierkeller. Seizing an opportunity in a dispute between the Bavarian Commissioner and central government, Adolf got up to his tricks in November 1923 and staged a "putsch" in Munich. He had the support and blessing of old Marschall Ludendorff, the war monger who was only happy when up to his garters in blood and guts. The revolt started on the 8th and Bavarian state troops ended it with a single volley the next day. Sixteen young Nazi hopefuls, duped by Hitler, were shot dead. He personally canonised them saints, "The Martyrs of the Feldherrnhalle". For every religion must have its martyrs, otherwise it will go nowhere without them.

Ludendorff and Hitler were arrested. Old 'blood and guts' was acquitted and Hitler was sentenced to

five years in prison, but just like the 'revolving door' on Dublin's Mountjoy, he was out for Christmas 1924. While incarcerated Hitler availed of the opportunity to dictate his masterpiece of fiction to his accomplice, Rudolf Hess.

Adolf wasn't one bit put out, by his sojourn behind bars and resumed his task of building up his party, although he had little enough support for another half dozen years. He turned his association with Ludendorff to good propaganda account. A poster showing them side by side bore the caption, "Der Marschall und der Gefreite". Hitler sure as hell put "the frighteners" on millions, even if it does translate, 'Lance corporal'. Beneath, the legend continued, "Kampfen mit uns fuer Frieden", "Fight with us for peace". Surely a contradiction in terms.

That went down well with the troops and there were many still in Germany who hankered after and held in respect, whom we in Ireland call, 'The auld dacency', but *Mein Gott*, what a let down for the Junkers officer class, der Marschall fraternising with an N.C.O. from the lower ranks!!!

Hitler campaigned indefatigably for years, displaying a genius for organisation. He was reputed to possess great personal charisma, which he could turn on, like a faucet, when required. Hermann Goering was a war hero, an ace pilot who shot down Allied aircraft by the dozen (22 actually). He was a very large man, with an even bigger ego, but after their very first meeting, about 1922, Adolf had Hermann eating out of his hand.

Those were tough times in politics, between the two World Wars. Imperialism gave way to ideologies, which were even far more sinister, where the citizens were controlled, in mind and body, by the state. There was fascism and capitalism on the right and communism on the left, while nationalism and republicanism could be anywhere in between. Governments, in Germany, fell in rapid succession, struggling with the intolerable burden of Reparations, uprisings of the Left and Right and assassinations.

Through all the political turmoil Hitler worked away, building up his party and declining to join any of the coalition governments. Everywhere he went he was met by units of his private army, the brown shirted SA, Sturmabteilung = Storm Detachment. His personal bodyguards, the dreaded Schutzstaffel, SS, travelled with him. They were even more sinister looking, in their long black coats. Hitler bided his time until his party attained a

majority following economic collapse in 1932. 17 months after coming to power Hitler rewarded the SA, by chopping its head off, supposedly to snuff out a counterrevolution. Captain Rohm, his wife and a hundred leading members of the private army were murdered on 'the night of the long knives' by Hitler's bodyguard, the SS.

The Sieger Show for the 25th jubilee year was staged in Berlin. There were 510 German Shepherd Dogs exhibited, which made it the largest single breed show anywhere in the world. The following year, 1925, the renowned directional change occurred.

During the second decade of its existence the breed, overall, had grown too tall. The rising tide was lifting all boats and the sale, to Americans, of large dogs, sometimes over 70 cm and resembling Irish Wolfhounds, was a lucrative trade, so why not continue breeding for large size, to meet the demand? It would be expecting a lot, that all the newcomers would show their zeal for the good of the breed, at the same intensity as the 12 Good Men of Karlsruhe, who founded the SV. Much of the height was at the expense of good angulation. Dogs were becoming stilt legged and losing their ability to trot could no longer be regarded as proper Shepherd Dogs.

Preceding the Sieger Show of 1925, staged in Frankfurt am Main, a meeting of the breed wardens and the president took place, where it was agreed the upward spiral would have to be discouraged. The change resulting from the corrective action taken at the show that year was like what the introduction of aerodynamics did to the automobile. Passing over the big upright sedan models, Max von Stephanitz chose a low slung, smooth running, sporty model in grey finish and tan trim. The dog was Klodo vom Boxberg SZ=135239 SchH, son of 1920 Sieger Erich vom Glockenbrink. Klodo was owned then by young Dr. Werner Funk, a future president of the SV and for very many years a breeder of top-quality GSDs in Hannover, bearing his trade mark, "vom Haus Schuetting".

The choice was inspired, rivalling the original choice of Horand von Grafrath, as SZ 1. Klodo positively outshone the following Siegers chosen by von Stephanitz during the remainder of his term of office. Max may have become just a little bit paranoid about large size and carried it dangerously low, with Sieger Utz vom Haus Schuetting, who almost had to stand up on his claws, to get above the minimum 60 cm.

Utz vom Haus Schuetting had a too deep chest, something he passed on to his children in no uncertain fashion. In Britain the trend was followed slavishly and the situation became disastrous. 'All-rounders', those fantastically knowledgeable people, who can judge **all** breeds, because they know everything, now had the Rittmeister's authority to make the breed look like overgrown Dachshunds, in pursuit of his dictat, "Long and low to ground", which was entirely misunderstood and misinterpreted. The advent of Nazism to power in Germany precluded corrective measures, allowing the 'all-rounders' and 'Alsatianists' to hold sway, unchallenged, for thirty-five years, until importation from Germany was resumed, in 1970.

Between the two World Wars the economies of European countries were in ruins. For England and France, winning the war was a Cadmean victory. They had bankrupted their economies paying for it. The men, who had fought in the trenches, were now starving and going on hunger marches. Their own tanks were used against hunger marchers in Glasgow, in 1924. The United States had usurped England's former role, of profiting from European wars. When the wealth of the world was concentrated in one country, it resulted in world trade stagnation. The influx of wealth led to galloping inflation in America, which in turn brought about the crash on the Wall Street Stock Exchange, in 1929, followed by widespread unemployment during the Great Depression of the '30s. The inedible gold reserves of the world were stacked high in Fort Knox, while 16 million unemployed Americans lined up at soup kitchens.

They were the circumstances of the victor nations. What must those of the vanquished have been? The worse the situation became the stronger the Nazi Party grew at each election. In 1932 major banks collapsed and the German Stock Exchange closed. With 6,500,000 unemployed, men were standing on the pavements with placards on their chests which read, *Ich suche Arbeit jeder Art* = "I seek work of any sort". Those conditions brought the Nazis to power at the end of January 1933.

THE NAZIS AND THEIR LEGACY.

Within 6 weeks they established their first concentration camp, on the site of a disused WW I munitions factory at Dachau, about half a dozen miles N.W. of Munich, where they incarcerated political opponents, communists, trade unionists, clergy,

etc., rounded up daily in Munich. Dachau was the prototype for hundreds of concentration camps, complete with gas chambers, which dotted Nazi occupied Europe 12 years later.

The concentration camp was not the brainchild of the Nazis. The odium of being the innovator of that institution must be attached to, by accident of birth, a fellow Dubliner, whose ascendancy class mother was living in County Kerry and when her time was due, to avoid attaching the stigma of being Irish to her offspring, made a dash for England. She allowed herself too little time and went into labour *en route* and gave birth to her son in Dublin. Later on, at the beginning of the 20th century, as Lord Horatio Kitchener, he became the world's most savagely aggressive empire-builder.

When the Boers were successfully resisting the might of the British Empire Kitchener brought them to their knees, by instigating a campaign of genocide against the people of Transvaal, in the years 1900 to '02. He had non combatants herded into concentration camps, where upwards of 26,000 women and children died from disease, sickness and starvation.

As Dachau filled up the ethos there was work and more hard work. On all sides the inmates were confronted with the slogan, *Arbeit Macht Frei* (Work Might Free) which could be interpreted, work empowers freedom. The words were boldly worked into the heavy iron entrance gates, so it was the first thing they saw on arrival. The poor bastards got lots of 'Arbeit', 11.5 hours every day in Summer and from dawn to dusk the rest of the year, on 3 litres of vegetable soup, usually cabbage water and a few hundred grams of bread a day. After that they stood for over an hour for roll-call. 'Frei' time was out of the question, because all the 'Macht' was stacked against them.

Early morning and late evening, working parties, in their pyjama striped prison garb, moved along the roads to and from their places of forced labour, under heavy armed guard. The guards were accompanied by dogs, trained to track down and savage escapees. The role of the dog had been inverted and stood on its head, by the Nazis. Now the dogs were herding humans and Animal Farm, in very real earnest, prevailed in Germany.

The Nazis were quick to seize on the German Shepherd Dog, as a ready-made *Macht* symbol. They appreciated its loyalty and willingness to serve. The breed met all the criteria for purity of race, it was *echte Deutsche* and very popular with



Picket on offices of Der Stern, Hamburg. Dog hater Niklas Frank, 2nd from the left.

the Fuehrer. His faithful companion, Blondie, was with him in the Reichstag bunker in Berlin to the very end. The monster poisoned her, before his own suicide. It was noted that German Shepherd Dogs complimented uniformed personnel. An officer in uniform with a German Shepherd Dog at his side made a very imposing picture.

In direct contravention of the SV training regulations, detachments of both the SS and SA trained and conditioned their dogs, to attack on command and savage anyone, man, woman or child, who was not in uniform. That was totally immoral and indefensible, because it inverted the role of the dog *vis-a-vis* the human. Doing so destroys the symbiosis of the species *Homo sapiens* and *Canis familiaris*, one herbivore and the other carnivore, which has existed between them for hundreds of thousands of years, enabling them to live together, in toleration and close harmony.

A dog, even as intelligent as the GSD, is incapable of making moral decisions. Once conditioned to respond in a certain way, the dog will make that response instantly, when called on to do so by his handler, in the manner of a soldier forming a firing squad responding to the order, "Fire", without concern for the innocence, or guilt, of his target. Every person who conditions dogs to attack humans on command, **is a Nazi at heart.**

The female SA exceeded their male counterparts, in the brutality they inflicted on the inmates of the female compounds, using their dogs in acts of bestiality. Any person who experienced, or heard graphic accounts of that depravity, could be forgiven for harbouring a lifelong loathing of the dogs involved. As a result, some of the bitterest enemies of the German Shepherd Dog reside in Germany. Occasionally their feelings boil over and appear in articles in the print media, as unreasoned and unreasonable outbursts.

Following a particularly gruesome incident, involving GSDs in Giessen, February 1985, an outrageously unbalanced article, by reporter Niklas Frank, appeared in the German illustrated, "Der Stern", Nr 12 '85.

According to Frank, German Shepherd Dogs were, "Disruptive, murders, have immoral characters, are killing machines, black and yellow coated Pershing 2's (ballistic missiles), 42 toothed killing force. Monsters. Sharks on land, the macht symbol of the 3rd Reich". He also alleged that, "The Parade Animal of Germany", - - "Is bred for beauty and ranks above wives and children". Which is absolutely and utterly untrue.

The article was so outrageously inaccurate that when a retraction, or apology, was not forthcoming, a picket was mounted on the offices of Der Stern,

in Hamburg, by 15 handlers and their dogs. Four were local dog owners, four more were Hamburg policemen, six were from the Customs, Red Cross, Avalanche and Disaster Rescue Services and the 15th was a lady with her guide dog, in an effort to present the positive side of the breed.

The SV responded strongly on domestic and Luxembourg television programmes, but Frank remained trenchantly adamant throughout. "I retract not a single word. Regrettably, too many owners of your Shepherd Dogs are not handling them correctly".

The devotee of the GSD breed finds it hard to believe that anyone could not love the breed as they do. Unfortunately there are those that do not. Every owner of a German Shepherd Dog must do everything possible, to ensure the good name and reputation of the breed and strive to avoid giving ammunition to those whose avowed ambition it is to completely exterminate the GSD breed.

Up to the mid thirties Adolf Hitler had far more admirers outside, than inside, Germany. From America to the Vatican, he was admired and perceived as a bulwark against the red tide of communism, spreading westward from Russia. When he became over ambitious, much of this admiration evaporated. Communism was the dreaded bogey man of both the Church and the capitalists, who were supplanting the ascendancy. In Russia, Joseph Stalin had already liquidated millions of Russian land owning peasants, for resisting collectivisation of farm land. Uncle Joe stayed well ahead of Adolf, in the millions he exterminated and yet remained a good buddy of Winston Churchill and Franklin D. Roosevelt, taking them on drinking binges around Teheran and Yalta.

At Yalta the Russians made the American and English delegations roaring drunk, while they, themselves, drank non alcoholic out of tinted glasses. Churchill and Roosevelt were so stupid drunk, they agreed to a four power occupation of Berlin, lying 100 kilometres behind the Russian frontier, **without** a land access corridor. A few years later, when the friendship had evaporated, the Russian Bear showed his claws and blockaded Berlin. The Americans sobered up fast, when they had to supply the city by air.

Uncle Joe got away with it longer, because his method was simpler. Cremating corpses raised a lot of black smoke and the gas chambers are still there to incriminate Adolf. When the Kulaks held on to their land, Uncle Joe created a famine in the area

and threw a military cordon around it, denying entry, or exit, to everyone until the corpses of the starved peasants mouldered into the soil they loved so dearly they refused to part from it. The stench and wailing death cries never got as far as London and Washington. It was just a case of, out of sight, out of mind.

During the 1930's two major European countries were in the grip of extreme ideologies presided over by two of the most psychopathic rulers ever in the human race and this 20th century is referred to as an enlightened age.

Adolf had other gifts, too. He was a great unifier. He completed the unification of Germany, by removing the last vestiges of autonomy held by the Federated States, which became administration districts under the central government. He was also way ahead of Pope John XXIII in the ecumenical movement, uniting the 28 Protestant denominations in Germany, under a Reichsbischof of his own choosing. Sport and youth were organised and regimented under Nazi ministerial control.

Dog clubs and breed societies were amalgamated by the Nazis and the SV became the Reichsfachschaft for the Schaeferhund Abteilung (Section) and was also charged with the responsibility of registration of all breeds, because of the excellent recording systems operated by them. Along with German Shepherd Dogs, other breeds, Riesenschнауzers, Dobermannpinchers, Rottweilers, etc., suitable for protection, or guard work service with the military, received special attention, from the Nazis. Furthermore, in the xenophobia of the time, there was an added attraction, in that all were native German breeds.

The Sieger Show became the Reichshauptschau = Empire main show. When held in Cologne, in 1938, the Sieger title was withheld and replaced by a new Auslese = Select group chosen from the Vorzuglich = Excellent Class. This system prevailed until 1955, when the Sieger title was awarded **and** the Vorzuglich Auslese Class was also retained.

The Show for 1939 was cancelled, due to the outbreak of the second great war. It appears the Show was not scheduled for 1940, presumably because of the heavy fighting in the West that Summer, leading to the fall of France and Dunkirk and all of that.

With a large part of Europe occupied in 1941 and Germany virtually unscathed, it looked like the Third Reich would last the 1,000 years, as promised

by Hitler. That year the Reichshauptschau was staged, in all its splendour of six age classes, in Stuttgart.

The following year, 1942, was a little less rosy in Germany. In the words of Winston Churchill, "the Bolshie dog was eating the Nazi (sic) dog". With many handlers called up for military service, travel restrictions and so forth, the Reichs show was not scheduled. However, a Sonderschau was being held in Aschaffenburg, in the greater Frankfurt-am-Main area and at very short notice the president of the SV, Dr. Roesebeck, decided to up grade it to Reichshauptschau status, because of its central location. Approximately 100 dogs were exhibited.

The Fuehrer sent a trophy, as did the Aussen and Innen Ministries and some other Ministries also, showing the breed was in very good standing with the government. The excellent service the dogs were providing, in the war, was acknowledged, by unveiling a *Kriegshunddenkmal* = War dog memorial, to swastika waving and a fanfare of trumpets, in the presence of the gendarmarie and a battalion of Volksturm, the local defence force comprised of boys and old men Hitler had called for to make a last ditch fight. A speech was made by a local political official, a Nazi Party bigwig, who concluded the ceremonies with "Sieg der Front" for victory and "Sieg Heil", the traditional salute to the Fuehrer.

The Wehrmacht was in deep trouble in Russia and the population of Germany was bleeding profusely. The Zeitung was combining issues and coming out monthly. Numbers 23 and 24, issued 1st December '42, carried an acknowledgement of the deaths of **ten** members of the SV, "*Fuer Volk und Vaterland starben den Heldentod*". In his fantasy world Hitler made great play on *den Heldentod* = Heroic death, from Germanic mythology and the stuff of Wagnerian operas.

Owners were exhorted to have all bitches covered in the Spring of '43, to keep the Fuehrer supplied, with dogs for the war effort. Some 200,000 dogs were employed by the German armed forces, who had facilities to train 2,000 a time, during the second great war and a large proportion were GSDs. They were also extensively used by the Red Army, having been obtained a couple of years earlier under the Hitler-Stalin Pact. In fact all the belligerents forces were using GSDs by the end of that war, as combatants, sentries, mine detectors and mine layers, carrying explosives against the enemy to be blown up with them. Humanity having sunk to its lowest ever depravity in Total War.

The complete collapse of Nazi Germany had devastating consequences on the GSD breed, which could have been far worse, but for the actions of one, Hans Gerke, chief of the dog replacement staff, Magdeburg, and SV member. He issued an order that Angekoert dogs should stay with their owners. That saved some of the best, from being swallowed up on the battlefields, to provide for the future. Another to be praised was Fritz Schaeffer who, against all the difficulties, kept the SV headquarters going through the war. The tide had definitely turned against the Nazis and publication of the Zeitung ceased, due to shortages, after April 1943. The offices of the SV were struck by a bomb in 1945.

Twice this century the **entire** German race has been held responsible and made to pay dearly for the excesses and crimes of their rulers. For large sections of the population, who resisted and suffered under the regimes, it was a doubling up of the injustices done to them. No mention is ever made of the large number of Germans who had experience of the concentration camps, **from the inside as inmates**. Opponents of Hitler were as power-



Serving on both sides in WW 2. German l. British r.

less as the Russian people against Stalin, or the Cambodian people against Pol Pot and history is full of instances of other psychopathic tyrants too numerous to mention

Dr. Roesbeck, Hannover, succeeded Rittmeister von Stephanitz, as president of the SV, until his sudden death in 1947. His term in office roughly spanned the Nazi era and can have been no joyride. He did the best he could, in those terrible times, to follow the path ahead, so clearly signposted by his predecessor.

The German Shepherd Dog had soared to the zenith of popularity when correctly used in humanitarian and non-combatant roles, during and following the first great war. In just 15 years the reputation of that noble breed, at least in three major countries, had sunk to the bottom of a deep abyss, not from any inherent fault, or weakness, in the breed itself, but solely and entirely due to the effects of abuse and misuse, through human vices.

There is no doubt that Max von Stephanitz was deeply troubled before his death, spending his final three years feuding with his associates, believing they were too readily acquiescing to the Nazis. Fortunately, for him, he did not live to experience the excesses of the gravest atrocities of the Nazis and their gross misuse of the dogs he

loved. The breed he had brought into existence, fostered and loved, was being taken in the opposite direction to the one he followed and control was taken from his hands. During the Nazi era the SV did resist political interference, as far as it was possible to go, when open confrontation with the regime earned one a spell in the concentration camp.

Shortly before his death, Max von Stephanitz was visited by Friedrich Mueller, Wuppertal, who was chronicling the events of the SV. At the final leave-taking Max implored Herr Mueller, "For me you must take care that the German Shepherd Dog remains the Utility Dog, all my life long I have struggled for that".

Rittmeister Max von Stephanitz died on the 22nd of April 1936. By a very strange coincidence, the thirty-seventh anniversary, of that day in Karlsruhe, when he founded the SV, the society which has grown to be the largest breed club world-wide, caring for the greatest breed among the canines of this planet. May memory of the man never fade and his ideals, for the breed he established, be espoused by **every** German Shepherd Dog owner. He was borne to Dresden for entombment with his ancestors, in the family vault, in Trinity Cemetery. May the shroud softly enfold his remains

12 GSDs IN AMERICA

A trickle of German Shepherd Dogs had arrived in the United States, prior to World War 1 and shortly after the breed was established. An American GSD breed club was founded, in 1913, but a heavy influx of dogs did not occur until the 1920's.

In the final phase of World War 1 there was a push along the American sector of the Western Front. Young men from all across the States, fresh over in France, were making a heave, eager to prove their mettle and grab some of the action before the 'show' was over. A bunch of GIs (stands for Government Issue, stamped on equipment and everything they wore), stormed into a German command post, which had been heavily shelled. A German Shepherd bitch lay dead on the ground, with two of her puppies crawling around her and trying to extract nourishment from her cooling nip-

ples. Their chances of survival were flat on zero, but their plight caught the attention of a young man, who had exchanged his peaceful home 6,000 miles away, on the West Coast, for the charnel house that was the Western Front. Despite the mayhem raging all around him, the heart of this young man was touched by the plight of the two little puppies. Noble acts, performed where self preservation would be wisest, can never be fully explained. With a sweep of his hand, GI Lee Duncan scooped up the puppies and stowed them in his rucksack. He shared his rations with them and borrowed food from his buddies and when the fighting died down, he pestered the field kitchen staff, for regular supplies of food that might suit a puppy. He must have put considerable effort into it, considering his circumstances, for his success rate in rearing was 100%.



Rin Tin Tin with animal trainer James Harrigan.

Finally the war was over and the two young dogs were thriving. The GI gave one to his commander and on being demobilised brought the remaining puppy back with him to California. He named him Rin Tin Tin, after a French puppet he had encountered, while overseas. By now the dog was his inseparable companion and playing with him proved to be good therapy, for the post combat trauma he suffered. The dog was highly intelligent and ever eager to please, so teaching him tricks was a real joy.

Film makers, in nearby Hollywood, required a dog to make an appearance in a scene and the pair landed the job as 'extras'. The dog was photogenic and his acting stole the scene, in fact he stole the film, for audiences went wild about him and so the dog who began life in the muddy trenches of war torn France became a Hollywood movie star and his fame spread world-wide. Film moguls realised they had an actor of star quality on their hands and lost no time in signing him up and having scenes written into almost every film they made, requiring an appearance by 'Rinty', arriving in the nick of time, to save the heroine from 'a fate worse than death', or uncover the "baddies" in whatever nefarious activities they were engaged in.

'Rinty' went on to found a dynasty of dogs in show business, which flourished for some generations. He lived on to a ripe old age, dying in 1932.

A rival studio got in on the act and mounted a challenge with their German Shepherd Dog. He was known as Strongheart, although his correct name was Etzel von Oeringen. So nightly one, or the other, flitted across the movie screens, all across the United States, and many another land, where the make-believe products of Hollywood were screened. Together they created a tidal wave of adulation for the GSD breed.

In the 1920's just about every youngster in the United States wanted to have and own a dog just like their favourite movie star. The demand for puppies became insatiable, far outstripping the numbers being bred. In such circumstances avarice and greed take hold and flourish. Regardless of suitability, every bitch was bred from and when regular breeders were unable to meet the demand, thoroughly unscrupulous individuals moved into the breeding industry and set up puppy farms, that were more like factories, to 'manufacture' puppies resembling GSDs and turn them out like sausages. Anything remotely resembling one was palmed-off on gullible and unsuspecting youngsters, as a genuine GSD.

The rise in popularity of the German Shepherd Dog, in the US, was meteoric, but that was exceeded by the rapid descent of the breed, which occurred around the time of the crash on Wall street. The name and reputation of the breed had been so overexploited and gutted for profit and so many disillusioned customers were left with the rubbish they had been sold, that the breed slid from the tip of the pinnacle to the bottom of the abyss. The situation was so bad, in the Great Depression of the 1930's, that genuine breeders of good quality GSDs, found no takers, when giving them away. Tough times indeed, but enough committed breeders kept faith with the GSD breed, to insure it survived and lived on, to see better days in the USA.

The Seeing Eye Foundation, which provided trained GSD guide dogs, gave the breed a very positive image. Some police departments employed GSDs. To many Americans they were the only representatives of the breed they were ever likely to encounter and so the breed name became known, in many districts as, Police Dogs.

Due to the exceptional strength of the Dollar *vis a vis* the Mark, between the two World Wars, a great many top male dogs were purchased in Germany and made one-way trips on the liners to New York. The foolish among them spent a lot of money buying up boatloads of rubbish, which the sellers were eager to dispose of. What does come across crystal clear from the period between the wars is, with all their money to spend, the Americans acquired very, very few top quality breeding bitches. I suspect that they were hidden well out of sight, during buying missions by Americans, to top German kennels,

So many Dollars were shelled out, for so many big name dogs, that some Americans convinced themselves they had bought up the GSD breed and foolishly boasted, in print, that leadership in the breed had passed to America. Bing Crosby sang, "How can you buy Killarney?". Well the Americans had a better chance of buying Killarney, than they had of buying up the GSD breed and if they did succeed in buying leadership of it, would they know what to do with it?. Apart from some zealous individuals, they lack an organisation, like the SV, to co-ordinate the promotion of the breed. That is not a personal opinion. I quote no less an authority on the subject than Mrs. G. M. Barrington, 'of Brittas' fame. "America, for instance, had imported some of the best blood in Germany but with the exception of a few top kennels did not know how to use it. I visited a number of shows in the U.S.A., in 1957,

and saw no consistency in the judging". She did not refer to the very strange anomalies in the Breed Standard adopted by the Americans.

During the sixties, a controversy raged among leading American judges, as to whether the hind leg should go inside, or outside, the foreleg when trotting. Which was a case of two wrongs never making a right. Because **both** positions would be incorrect, by virtue of not being a straight succession of steps and paw prints.

So much extra length of lower thigh (shinbone) was being bred in, to accentuate the rear angulation, in pursuance of a fetish for overangulation, that the dogs were unable to fully control their rear limbs and were trotting awkwardly as a result. Dogs with kangaroo style hind legs can **not** trot and must hop. That was the "structural beauty", lauded so highly by the American author Ernest H. Hart.

The naiveté and gullibility of the Americans is incredible. After the first great war Mrs Harrison Eustis was attracted to the breed and established her kennels, "Fortunate Fields" in Switzerland, "where truly important experiments were conducted for the purpose of establishing a definite working strain of Shepherds", wrote Ernest H. Hart 40 years later. The experiments were mostly on the false premise of matching working ability to "structural beauty". That was getting it the wrong way round and putting the cart ahead of the horse. At that same time, von Stephanitz was stressing, to the point of boredom, that beauty was whatever it took to render service and beauty alone was a hollow shell. The Americans accepted and attached far greater importance to the efforts of a, "Do gooder", with no depth of background knowledge of the breed and the findings of her scientific advisers, working to her whims, than they gave to the outpourings of the founder, who had already spent a lifetime developing the breed to a place of pre-eminence.

Americans gave themselves an immense amount of grief, in the German Shepherd Dog Official Breed Standard of The American Kennel Club, which errs significantly from that of the SV. Why that was so is impossible to fathom. They rushed to Germany to buy up expensive dogs. Many were ethnic German stock and knew the language, so the advice and warnings of the SV were available to them, at first hand, and yet they insisted on going it alone. Perhaps some strange sense of independence, inherited by tenuous links from the Boston Tea Party, was responsible.

They incorporated, in their version of the Breed

Standard, some strange notions, which emanated from "Fortunate Fields. For instance, the SV Standard states positively, "Every tendency to over angulation of the hind leg reduces the fitness and endurance". To accommodate the American penchant for over angulated stifles the following appears in their Breed Standard, "GAIT-(b) ----. Reaching far under, and passing the imprint left by the front foot, the strong arched hind foot takes hold of the ground; ---. The over-reach of the hindquarter usually necessitates one hind foot passing outside and the other hind foot passing inside the track of the fore-feet and such action is not faulty unless the locomotion is crabwise, with the dog's body sideways out of the normal straight line".!!!. Why should "the hindquarter - over-reach"?. You breed up a fault and then draw up a Breed Standard to accommodate the fault. Is that the right way to go?

Brian Wooton points out that dogs do overreach, in an extended trot, borne out by the SV film of Sieger Dingo v. Haus Gero. While I have not seen the film, I can readily recollect Dingo zooming away from his competitors, in Frankfurt, 1983. Among the 'movers' and the 'shakers', of that era, Dingo **was** the best, without any of the shaking and he, most certainly, **did not** move in the manner presented by Hart.

Hart explained there was no need for one foot passing outside and the other foot passing inside, when the dog moved close behind (which, also, is faulty). "The animal, in a full, strong trot, reaches forward with each hind leg to this point and **inward** toward the center (sic) of the body", he postulated. That is descriptive of tight rope walking, or walking a white line, by placing one foot directly in front of the other. Sheer bunkum, in relation to the dog trotting. Instead of a natural straightforward easy swinging stride, that would require an oscillating, energy sapping, detour movement of the leg **around** its opposite number momentarily supporting the dog, bound to produce a rear end wobble and a wiggle, not seen since the late and lamented Marilyn Monroe departed from us.

Even dogs publicly banned from breeding, by the SV, were eagerly bought up and bred from in America. One such was Nores von der Kriminalpolizei, despite having sired the 1921 Sieger, Harras vom Juch, he was banned in Germany, but he was heavily used at stud in America, simply because he was the father of film star, Strongheart.

America, Australia, Britain, Japan, etc., have spent vast sums of money importing German Shepherd Dogs from Germany, with less than the desired affect on the local general population. All too often the excellence of the imports is dissipated and quickly watered down, by the inappropriate efforts of second and third line breeders, who, in the absence of firm guidelines, also lack the knowledge and zeal of the front line breeders, who have expended their cash. Not, and until, self regulatory bodies evolve, in those lands, of members inspired with the zeal of Captain von Stephanitz, to maintain the GSD in its rightful place as the ultimate Utility Dog, is there likely to be marked and steady upward progress, on a broad basis. The density of population is there, at least in America and Britain, to have societies as good and strong as, or even better than, the SV, controlling registrations and minimum standards of suitability for breeding purposes, correct rearing and socialising of puppies and young stock and proper supervision of training and conditioning of dogs for their Utility Dog roles. Unsuitable dogs and undesirable owners and breeders should be equally unacceptable in such organisations.

There should be **no** compartmentalisation of the breed. It should be possible to choose from the same litter, a personal bodyguard, police dog, guide dog and child's companion dog. The basic raw material for each of those roles should be present in every correctly bred litter of German Shepherd Dogs.

As they are now constituted, the Kennel Clubs appear to be in very weak positions for enforcing the constraints that are necessary to maintain and preserve the character and temperament of our breed. Provided both parents are registered, their progeny must be accepted for registration, regardless of the parents being scared of their own shadows, their hips falling apart with HD, sharply overaggressive temperaments, undershot bite, cryptorchid, white, or any other major fault you care to think of.

The owners and breeders of German Shepherd Dogs, through their regional and national breed clubs, must take stronger action to control the destiny of the breed, through closer and fuller implementation of the Breed Standard of the GSD, as agreed, approved and ratified by the World Union of Shepherd Dog Clubs, WUSV.

13 GSDs IN BRITAIN

A few German Shepherd Dogs are believed to have made their way into Great Britain, prior to the first great war. They received no official recognition. The outbreak of rabies, in 1903, would have discouraged the importation of dogs from the Continent. However, four years of warfare, with all the toing and froing there was to Belgium and France, would have loosened attitudes somewhat.

Unquestionably German Shepherd Dogs, serving with the German Army, had aroused keen interest, on the Allied side. During the years of conflict, sightings of GSDs aroused speculation among the opposing forces and myths had started to spread, that "Gerry" was training wolves, to help in the war effort. It is a phenomenon, among soldiers faced by a resourceful and implacable foe, to attribute superhuman powers to their enemy. English officers were very impressed, but they took a much more practical view, acquiring some of the dogs to take back to England. Dogs were easy enough to come by, in Flanders, once the Armistice was signed. The fighting was over and the dispirited German soldiers, climbing out of their trenches and heading home, no longer required the services of Meldehunde. Food was scarce and famine was looming very close for Germany.

No one at the English ports dared impede the conquering heroes returning home with a few four legged trophies from the war. The dogs were accustomed to men in uniform and moving from unit to unit, so the change in accents is about all they would have noticed. The question of a name arose, for the breed, when registrations started with The Kennel Club, London, in 1919. Any hint of a German connection had to be concealed.

Wartime propaganda had fanned the flames of racial hatred and fear of everything German. Only recently soldiers, in Prussian helmets, were depicted in cartoons, bayoneting Belgian babies. Dachshunds, too, had been stoned in the streets, by the usually animal loving English, simply because their German name betrayed their country of origin and hadn't King George V, in 1917, discreetly dropped the patronymic Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, of his German grandfather, Prince Albert, for the more

anglicised Windsor, distancing himself from his first cousin, the Kaiser, on whom he had declared war.

The name inflicted on those noble animals, who had served their former masters so loyally throughout a horrendous conflict was, "Alsatian Wolf-dog". Was it possible to make it any more inappropriate?

The name now gave credibility to the myth, which still persists, that the breed was produced by crossing to the wolf. The sheer and utter nonsense, of believing that shepherds in Germany bred wolf mongrels, to **tend** their flocks, is mind boggling. The second half of the name was dropped, like a hot potato, but the damage was done and was irretrievable. "Alsatian" was stubbornly adhered to, for 58 years, by The Kennel Club, against the wishes of the majority of owners and in defiance of the FCI, the International Federation, ruling that a breed must be known by the same name it enjoys in the country of origin and the German Shepherd Dog most certainly **did not** originate in Alsace.

The Bard of Avon had something to say about naming roses and their scent, well that also applies to Alsatians, because their popularity grew throughout the British Isles, in spite of the unsuitable sobriquet. That was largely on the impressive appearance they made, outside the stately homes of their officer class owners, and also at dog shows.

The functional side of the breed was completely misunderstood. Instead of working them with their livestock, the majority of farmers saw them as, "Wolf-dogs", a threat to livestock and would have preferred to shoot them on sight. There were exceptions, but far too few, who quite properly used their German Shepherd Dogs, sorry Alsatians, working with their cattle and sheep in Britain.

The Alsatian League was founded in 1924. It has survived many vicissitudes of fortune in three quarters of a century and undergone a name change, in keeping with that of the breed, in 1978. The members, over the years, have put considerable effort into popularising the breed. Due to the influence of the flood of imports, over the last twenty-five years, a lot of catching up has been accomplished and now, the top end at least, of the stock in Britain is almost on a par with the best in the Vaterland.



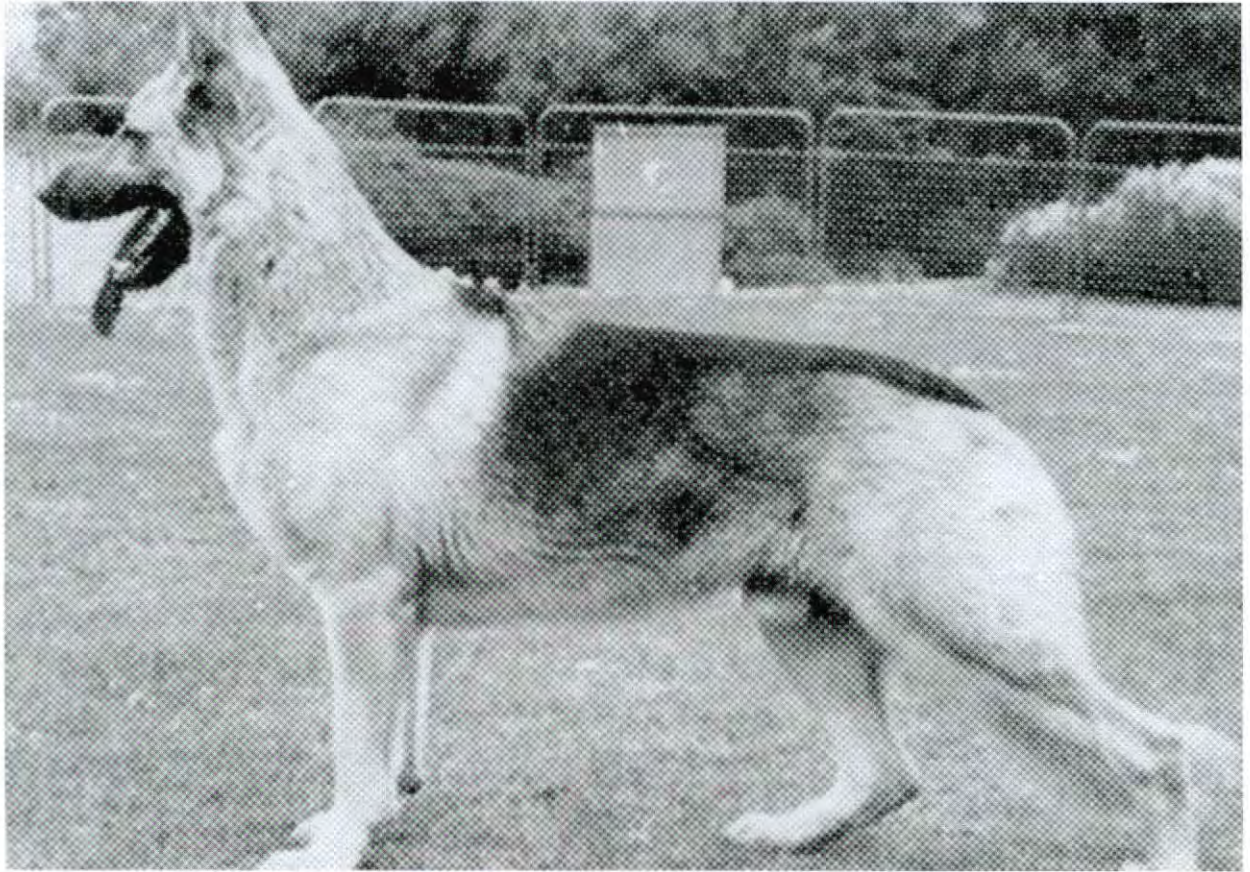
The RAF Police Team play Dogs and Ladders.

The first echelon of owners were mainly officer class landed gentry, which gave rise to another myth: that a small estate was necessary to own an 'Alsatian', but the rise in popularity was so rapid that in a short number of years "Alers" were to be found in the humblest of abodes. Some were kept so confined they became totally neurotic, yet these animals were bred from, in the ignorance that prevailed. Some were converted into junk yard "guard dogs", by using all the wrong methods, of flanking, beating and chaining up. The unfortunate dogs were turned into lethal weapons, by their owners, who had no more regard for the Alsatian breed, than as a source of raw material to be converted into 'guard dogs'. Their very reprehensible business led, inevitably, to savage attacks on humans,

by dogs crazed by brutality. A sensation seeking print media picked up on these incidents and, instead of investigating the cruelty that lay behind the attacks, focused on the breed. Recalling the "Wolf-Dog" nomenclature, they presented the dogs as naturally savage, with propensity for unprovoked attacks on humans and on children, in particular.

After become the most popular breed in Britain, the Alsatian became the most used breed as 'guard dogs'. From that, an association was quickly formed, that the two were synonymous. Ever since then, Alsatians have had a very bad press. The official name, "Alsatian (GSD)" was reversed, in 1977, and now reads, "German Shepherd Dog (Alsatian)". The name 'Alsatian' is becoming archaic, among the breed following, but it is still favoured, in the print media, by cub reporters who would not know an Airedale from an Aardvark and sub editors, conjuring up sensational headlines, for mauling incidents, involving dogs any larger than Toy Poodles, will trundle out the old reliable banner headline, "ALSATIAN TYPE DOG MAULS TOT IN COT", for in their minds Alsatian **type** embraces all vicious dogs. Concurrently serious crimes of murder, arson, armed robbery, rape and rapine don't rate mentioning. Through that adverse publicity, a decline in the popularity of the Alsatian, was as inevitable as night follows day.

In a climate of democratic, "freedom of choice", so prevalent and steadfastly adhered to, in a land where every Englishman is king in his own castle, during the rise in popularity of the breed, anyone who thought of doing so, acquired and bred Alsatians to their own personally conceived notions. Quite often having scant regard for any Breed Standard, whatsoever. The efforts of the breeders, who held the interests of the breed at heart, were like king Canute trying to stem a mighty strong tide, flowing in the wrong direction. "Man work" became a popular misnomer for personal bodyguard training. It was abhorred by many and on the genteel show scene the dogs were regarded as 'pets' and 'hardness' in dogs was severely frowned upon. To the conservative English Schutzhund was foreign and was largely resisted, misinterpreted and misunderstood and equated with "guard dog" training, which was distasteful to many. From all of that the intrinsic courage and protective instincts of the Alsatian (GSD) breed, were hopelessly neglected, leaving nothing but *papier-mâché* shells of the genuine article.



Champion Avon Prince of Alumvale.

Then came the economic depression, starting in the 20's and running into the 30's. Winning the first great war was a pyrrhic victory for the French and English empires, which brought about their eclipse and decline. The rise of Nazism in Germany caused the complete severance of the breed, in Britain, from its root stock and source of replenishment and invigoration.

The dozen or so years between the ending of the first great war, to Hitler's rise to power, was too short a period for structures to be developed in support of the breed in England, along the lines of and with support and advice from the SV. The standard clearly states, "Only a qualified person is capable of establishing the presence of the requisite Utility Dog disposition in German Shepherd Dogs. Therefore only special judges shall be engaged, who shall be obliged, to test the dogs presented before them for character and sensitivity to gunfire and they may only award the breed qualification V to dogs who have received a recognised training qualification". Compare that with "all-rounders" stepping into the ring to judge a breed they knew absolutely nothing about. Many had never handled,

much less owned, an Alsatian. They got it all wrong about the Rittmeister's quote, "Long and low to ground". They believed GSDs should look as statuesque as sculptured ornaments on top of gate piers, without a hint of fluency in motion, which is essential for a true Shepherd Dog, in fact for any herding dog.

After World War 2, Avon Prince of Alumvale came to the fore. He was over stretched and his elongated body led the trend in that direction. He had a weak back and loose hocks as a result of his exaggerations, but his noble bearing and 'showmanship' carried it off in the cramped rings, which were acceptable, as 'gait work' amounted to once around the mulberry bush. The judges were looking for statuesque 'nobility', the very antithesis of the fleeting gait which gives an impression of 'poetry in motion'.

That state of affairs was offset, to some extent, from the 50's onward, by the engagement, at major breed shows, of SV qualified judges, who were mostly Germans, to judge the adult classes, but these judges did not judge by their own, the SV Standard, frequently foregoing the sureness to gunfire test and awarding V's, for excellence, to ani-

mals with no training qualifications. Omissions which were not conducive to correcting the widespread lack of character among Alsatians in the post war era. A large number of show dogs, photographed in the 50's and 60's, had their tails tucked forward between the legs. While some of the problem may be due to forceful handling, the position of the tail is a reliable indicator of the dog's character. I have yet to find a dog, pictured in the SV Zeitung, with the tail held in that position. Leafing through The League Handbook for 1983 reveals some 60 dogs, including a few Champions, with their tails tucked forward of a vertical line, down from the root of the tail. The 1990 collection show an improvement, with less than two dozen looking suspect, but when will handlers, in Britain, ever learn to pose their dogs in a natural stance? Character, it appears, is an aspect of the breed to which dedicated breeders in Britain could pay greater attention to.

Breeders and owners, who weren't blinded by racial hatred and prejudice, began attending the Sieger Show again and were frank enough to admit that their dogs at home were lacking that little something extra and were courageous enough to do something about it. At the price of good dogs in Germany and the cost of 6 months quarantine on top of that, it took a fair bit of the hard stuff, as well as courage, to bring in a dog.

Impuls aus Germany helped to blaze the trail in 1970 and did exactly what his call name means and gave the show scene an impulse. Then breeders in Britain received a windfall. Australia had maintained a complete ban on the importation of GSDs since 1929. Based on the false assumption that the amorous 'Alers' would pair off with the local dingo girls and produce a race of super sheep killers and with the lives of one hundred and fifty million jumbucks to protect the Australian authorities were taking no chances.

The Australian ban was lifted on the 5th of March 1974. Buyers from Australia soon began arriving in Germany and competing on the market. Having travelled ten thousand miles they weren't interested in rubbish, or even mediocrity. Those Aussies had a lot of gumption. The dogs faced 13, yes thirteen, months in quarantine, which is a mighty large chunk out of a dog's life. One way to minimise that, was to make a stopover for a year in Britain. Of course the first six months had to be spent in quarantine, but then the second six months were entirely free for guest show appearances, or given over to amorous pursuits. After that there was just one month of quarantine left, on arrival in Australia.

That presented an opportunity, which astute breeders in Britain and Ireland were quick to avail of and mate their females to some of the best dogs then emanating from the Vaterland. There was one little snag, which was well worth the risk, if the bitch failed to kindle, there was no match replay, for by her next oestrus her lover boy would be looking up from 'down under'.

The plus was that dogs en route to Australia left some very good genes behind in these Islands and when the flow to Australia eased off there was enough confidence to continue importing on a large scale.

Quarantine restrictions were a serious impediment to equalising quality internationally. Enforced confinement, for six months and upwards, is very deleterious to the physical and mental condition of dogs, so sensitive, active and intelligent as German Shepherd Dogs. Quarantining dogs for six months against the spread of rabies is now an archaic and long outmoded practise, in the presence of a reliable vaccine against this disease. Quarantining certain categories of dogs will end, in Britain, in the year 2000

14 GSDs IN IRELAND

In 1919 the fighting had ended on the Western Front, but broke out in guerrilla warfare in Ireland, just as the Alsatian Wolf-dog was being registered, for the first time, in London. The English establishment had made a major blunder, in 1916, by carrying out a series of reprisal executions, in Dublin. Empire royalists shot themselves in the foot and started the disintegration of the British Empire. At the next general election, just after Christmas 1918, a tide of resentment swept *Sinn Féin*, the Ourselves Party, to victory. They adopted the Proclamation of Independence, declared in 1916, thereby legitimising the Irish Republican Army and established *An Dail*, a separate Parliament in Dublin, rejecting the authority of the 'mother of Parliaments' to rule Ireland. Events which were bound to bring them into conflict with the armed forces of King George V of England.

After three years of very nasty work, by **both** sides, it was agreed, in 1921, that the Irish could muddle through their own affairs in 26 of the 32 counties of Ireland, in what became known as the Irish Free State. Having acquired a taste for fighting, the freedom fighters then turned on each other and fought a very uncivil Civil War.

Despite all the upheaval, the Irish Kennel Club was established soon after the signing of the Treaty of Independence, with jurisdiction over the new Irish Free State, although it remained little more than a branch office of The Kennel Club, London. 'The troubles', an Irish euphemism for the War of Independence and the Civil War, did not prevent German Shepherd Dogs arriving in Ireland, quite soon after their advent in England, for as early as 1924 Mrs G. M. Barrington was an exhibitor at the Kilkenny Show. She was still in her teens and flying the banner of her maiden name, Gwen Bligh. The captain of the "Bounty", who had a spot of bother with a mutiny, was an ancestor.

A breed club was formed, to cater for the new breed and affiliate to the new Irish Kennel Club, but could they agree on what to call themselves, or their dogs? Not at all. Brendan Behan, who wrote "The Borstal Boy", himself a stormy petrel with intuitive insight into the Irish psyche and character, has said that the first item on the agenda, of every inaugural committee meeting among the Irish is, "A

split". No longer tied to London and having to slavishly follow dictat from that quarter, Irish owners of the new breed could make their own choice, but there was sharp division over the name for the breed.

The division, it appears, had more to do with politics, loyalties and allegiances, than to any other cause. Empire royalists wanted to retain, "Alsatian Wolf-dog", in line with London, while the nationalists insisted on changing to "German Shepherd Dog". Discussions became so acrimonious that the two positions became irreconcilable and so, as Brendan would put it, they 'split', into two separate breed clubs, each formed for a share of a very minuscule group of animals. When the unfortunate dogs passed in the street, one never knew if the other was a "GSD", or an "Aler". Worse still, it engendered in the minds of the uninformed public a lasting conviction that there were, in fact, two separate breeds, a notion that persists to this very day.

In recent years I have encountered persons who were adamantly unshakeable in their belief that there **were** two separate breeds and proceeded to enlighten me that the heavy coated black dogs are GSDs and the short coated black and golds are Alsatians. Another individual had them 'vicka verka', as someone I knew used to say.

The "split" lasted until around 1930. There was such a small group of owners and dogs, when they divided they became really inconspicuous. Negotiations to reach a settlement finally arrived at a compromise, a merger of the two clubs and an amalgamation of the two names into, 'German Shepherd Dog Alsatian Wolf-dog'. That was an Irish solution to an Irish problem, but it gave rise to what must have been the longest and most incongruous name of any breed, or species, in zoography. As time elapsed the problem sorted itself out and, officially, the breed became known by the correct name of German Shepherd Dog, while Alsatian, favoured by the media, tenaciously lingered on.

For close to sixty years the breed remained, for the most part, in the hands of breed enthusiasts, mostly better off financially and so, largely, escaped the exploitation which occurred in other countries. Pedigree puppies were expensive, costing 15



Voss von Bern Zpr. HGH. Magnificent, for the 1930's

guineas in the early 50's, almost a month's income for most people. One lady breeder in Dublin, who was the wife of a senior garda, discouraged prospective purchasers, who looked a little run down at heel, by informing them, "The German Shepherd Dog is not a poor man's dog". She must have been completely unaware of the origins of the breed, in Germany.

The show scene was dominated by Mrs. Barrington's "Brittas" dogs, where a string of Champions and International Champions were bred. She had the resources to go to Germany and over the years imported several dogs, most of whom made a marked impression on the breed locally. Voss v. Bern, her first import in the 1930's, was most outstanding. She became a personal friend of the von Stephanitz family. Being close enough, in age, to Hertha von Stephanitz, they became lifelong friends. She was an honoured guest of the SV, receiving very VIP treatment and a special award for her 60 years membership.

She quite correctly worked her dogs with sheep and cattle and trained some to retrieve game shot by sporting parties. Which they performed as good as Retrievers. After her husband died in the Far East, during the final phase of the war, she bestowed all her love and affection on her dogs, GSDs and Irish Water Spaniels. She was fiercely competitive in the show ring, during all of her life. When over 80 she would do a *baka* war dance at the ringside, when her dog won a class. Her contribution to the breed, in the British Islands, was enormous. From Anglo-Irish ascendancy stock, she was never given full credit for it here, or got the recognition and appreciation in Ireland, which she richly deserved. For far too long, we, the people of Ireland, have been divided.

GARDAI DOGS

The *Garda Siochana*, the police force of the Republic of Ireland, tentatively introduced police dogs in the 1950's. They were acquired from English Police divisions ready trained. There has been, and still persists, a lamentable lack of training of dogs, for security service, in Ireland. That has got something to do with the carefree makeup of the Irish character. The dogs were magnificent specimens of the heavy type then popular in England and served to attract me to the breed. It was some sight to see a Garda patrolling with his dog.

After visiting the Hamburg Police Dog Training Centre, in 1976, I began enquiring why our police were not using dogs. Replies were very vague. One was that a child, a government minister's child at that, had been bitten by one of the Garda dogs and they were all put down. Oddly enough, in the trauma of the Missile Crisis, the true explanation escaped me, for almost 20 years. Not until reading Dr. Noel Browne's book, *Against the Tide*, did I find an explanation for the disappearance of *Garda* dogs.

Dr. Browne was active in politics and as Minister of Health in a Coalition Cabinet toward the end of the 40's, was largely responsible for bringing to an end the scourge of TB, which had caused the premature death of his father and affected himself. He next introduced a Mother and Child Welfare Bill, which had been drafted by the previous *Fianna Fail* Government, which should have ensured its passage through parliament, with a large measure of popular support.

On some abstruse ecclesiastical grounds, John Charles McQuaid Archbishop of Dublin and Primate of Ireland, trenchantly opposed the Bill. To put his opposition into perspective. At the same time unwed mothers were ostracised, by Church and State. Many had their infants removed from them and forced into years of slave labour, scrubbing clothes in institutions known as Magdalen Laundries, run by Religious Orders of nuns, who operated a lucrative sideline, in exporting some of the babies, to rich families in the United States.

Fearful of, 'A belt of a crosier', the remainder of the Cabinet went ducking for cover, leaving Dr. Noel hanging out to dry. The government collapsed, giving substance to the allegations, coming from outside, that the State was "priest ridden". Dr. Browne stayed on, until long after the incident we are leading up to, a rather lonely Socialist on the Left of Irish politics.

A revolution had overthrown the corrupt United States backed dictatorship of Cuba. A counter revolution, inspired by Bobby Kennedy, had been annihilated in the Bay of Pigs and Cuban leaders turned to Soviet Russia, for protection from their mighty neighbour. This happened at the height of the Cold War, between Soviet Russia and the United States. By their belligerence toward their tiny neighbour the Americans had driven the Cubans into the arms of the Russians, presenting them, on a plate, with sites for their missiles less than a hundred miles from the coast of Florida.



Maureen of Brittas doing the work she was bred for

That was far beyond what the Americans were prepared to allow. In October 1962 the Missile Crisis came to a head. Every city in the US was within range of Soviet intermediate range nuclear ballistic missiles, which could strike in minutes. Fatalistic fears were rising. The US government could not remain inactive. President John F. Kennedy issued an ultimatum to premier Nikita Khrushchev. The missile ships must turn around and all the missiles delivered be brought back to Russia.

Two very resolute and stubborn men confronted each other and neither looked likely to chicken out. Virtually the entire population of the globe expected the big bangs to start going off, which would send *Homo sapiens* to join the Dodo and the Dinosaurs.

In the atmosphere of impending doom, a meeting took place in a Dublin cellar, of leftists, reds, pinks and fellow travellers, which Dr. Browne attended. The agenda was of mundane matters, which a speaker pointed out would count for nought, in the event of a nuclear holocaust. They should raise their voices in protest, while they still had got them. They came up onto the street, proclaiming their message, but were largely ignored. Acting on impulse, they headed for the American Embassy, to lodge a protest.

Word had gone ahead of them and near the Embassy a line of dark blue uniforms standing shoulder to shoulder brought the marchers to a halt. Dr. Browne described the events that followed, in his book. With a couple of others he approached the senior *Garda* and requested, as an elected member of *an Dail*, to be allowed to pass, to hand in a letter at the Embassy. While he was engaged in conversation he heard vans pulling up and dogs barking. The next thing he realised was that the dogs were attacking the people and he himself was attacked and severely bitten, borne out by photographs in the next morning's newspapers. Several people, badly bitten by the dogs, were treated in hospital. Noel Browne, a medical doctor, treated his own wounds.

The late Dr. Noel was a gentle and inoffensive person. That was a dreadful thing to happen to a person, whose main concern was the welfare of all humanity, to be at the receiving end of an atrocity, by a police force ostensibly there for his protection. The standards of the *Garda Síochána*, at least on that occasion, had descended to the level of the Nazis. Some person in authority, in the Irish Department of Justice, had made an awful blunder about the use of dogs in police service. It cannot be stressed strongly enough that it is unlawful, immoral and totally unjustifiable for **any** person to set a dog to make an unprovoked attack on another human being. Any persons doing so equate themselves to the Nazis. The Nazis tarnished the shining image of the German Shepherd Dog breed, by conditioning them, and other breeds, to attack on command and savage any person, man, woman or child, who was not in uniform.

Police dogs, or any other dogs trained to security service, while effecting an arrest, must **never** make an unprovoked attack on any person, criminal or otherwise. When threatened, a dog may meet a threat of violence with all the force necessary to remove that threat, but should **not** continue combat beyond that point. There is a very clear demarcation here, which some people refuse to recognise, but that line divides the morally justifiable use of dogs, in contact with humans, from what is improper and immoral and **should be** illegal use of dogs in each and every State.

Arising out of that incident, in Dublin, the *Garda* Dog Unit was mothballed for years, not wound up, as I had been informed, but it might as well have been, because ever since it has remained an ineffectual adjunct of the Irish Police force.

Schutzhund training was introduced to the Republic of Ireland, in the 70's, and, once again, proved to be a very divisive issue for the Irish. A couple of the principle proponents were on an ego trip, which does not sit well with the ideals of the breed founder and innovator of Schutzhund. They caused so much disruption, in 1976, bulldozing their way through the German Shepherd Dog Club of Ireland, that the breed following sundered, not once, but twice, into three separate organisations, one pro and one anti and another, which remained indifferent to Schutzhund.

The pro Schutzhund organisation was run very much on the lines of a 'Mutual Admiration Society'. An exclusive ethos of 'us' and 'them' prevailed, which was off-putting for many dog owners and inhibited the growth in popularity of Schutzhund. Being an advocate of Schutzhund since first learning of it and an outspoken supporter to boot, I made application for membership. My standing in the breed was fairly well established and yet I was cold shouldered and my application ignored for six years.

When I acquired my own SchH 3 dog, which was before they had managed to qualify any of their dogs SchH 1, then they came tripping over themselves, with arms out to welcome me in and there was no delay in obtaining membership for life.

The association was growing organically and spreading nation-wide and was of undoubted benefit to dogs and their owners, but that consequently caused a diminution of the 'Mutual Admiration' syndrome. There were other factors, but the ego trip was over and the withdrawal of the trippers from active participation saw the whole thing implode.

There was another development, during the 1970's, which had far reaching consequences, with drastic changes to the ownership of dogs. Decadence in the United States, due to the Viet Nam War, was spreading to Ireland. A drugs related crime wave began to escalate steadily. Rising affluence, in some sectors, was filling homes with easily transportable valuables, which were soft targets for daylight robbers, while the occupants were absent. As the criminals became more desperate business premises were raided and staff intimidated. A very nasty development, was the number of old people whose homes were broken into and personally badly abused to deprive them of small sums of cash. The Gardai appeared unable to do much about it. They appeared to be preoccupied

with the fund-raising activities, of illegal organisations, through armed bank raids. Dublin was going the way of Chicago, during Prohibition.

The widespread advice, from Gardai to the victims, was to get a dog. That started a rush into owning and breeding dogs, repeating, on a smaller scale, what had happened in America half a century earlier. Owners of undocumented dogs were offering tidy sums for "the papers" of deceased, or non breeding animals. So much falsification went on that pedigrees became known, among the knowledgeable, as 'The comics'. Mrs Kirby, of "Kermouth" GSDs told me she was shown a pedigree on which **both** parents named were male dogs, no doubt cobbled together by some very inexperienced forger. The dishonesty was at all levels. One very well known breeder took a bitch over to a German import, at stud in England, which resulted in a very disappointing 'pigeon's clutch', but the number registered and sold, as the progeny of that sire, made it a phenomenally large litter. The recent introduction of DNA testing to dogs will make the perpetration of that kind of fraud a lot more risky, for the cheaters.

'Security companies' sprang up like mushrooms, in the very lucrative property protection racket. By the mid 80's the Golden Pages carried a large section of half and full page advertisements. Many were illustrated with vans, which had radio antennae protruding from them and uniformed patrolmen alongside, each complete with an 'Aler', to create an impression of highly sophisticated operations, combining "trained dogs and modern technology". In real life few, if any, lived up to the claim of "trained dogs".

There was absolutely no tradition of training dogs, for security service, in the Republic of Ireland and to my knowledge there was only one person who knew how, a former Nazi who had settled in Ireland and had seen service in the Hamburg police, during the Hitler era. For the rest of the 'trainers', they just learned by trial and error and they sure made lots of errors, transforming harmless dogs into the monsters described by Niklas Frank in *Der Stern*. Induction tests were carried out, in a manner similar to that of Shaka on his Zulu warriors, by subjection to pain and ordeal and instantly putting to death those who winced. The dogs that fought back were toughened up, with the sewer rod and nailed boot. Real life for many of them wasn't a bit like that portrayed in the Golden Pages. One pair, installed on premises, for which

the renter received £100 a week, had to exist on just a large bucket of sheep heads once a week. As for the dogs who wilted and lay down, they were regarded as useless. They got a crack on the head from a lump hammer and were thrown into a skip. Perhaps they were the fortunate ones.

The 'trainers' went through a number of breeds, to find the toughest. The GSD was a widespread first choice, but the dogs are too intelligent and sensitive, to accept brutality and perform well. The 'hard' men moved on, to less intelligent breeds, with higher pain thresholds and greater tolerance of savage treatment, through Dobermans, to Rottweilers and finally, to Rhodesian Ridgebacks, in the belief, that a dog bred for hunting lions in Africa had got to have bottle. They should have gone to the Zambezi river and brought back crocodiles, which would have been just about right for their requirements.

When demand outstripped the supply of home bred dogs, one 'trainer' resorted to importing from England, consignments of vicious dogs, under sentence of death over there for their misdeeds. Those worthless dogs were then sold on for over £1,000 a pair and were a source of far greater danger, to the purchasers, than they ever were to the criminal fraternity. An acquaintance of mine, who ran his own business, visited the kennels and was shown a recently arrived consignment. He told me he was astounded and speechless when the 'trainer'/importer turned to him and gloated, "Every one of them has drawn blood".

One dog from that quarter was hired out daily to patrol the municipal dump at Bohernabreena. The dog was so aggressive, that the owner could not take him back from the handler, when he went to collect him, so a kennel had to be placed on the site, to put the dog in, to make the transfer. One day the dog turned on his handler, knocking him to the ground and would have polished him off, if the driver of a digging machine had not picked up a wooden stave and gone to his rescue. The dog rounded on the driver, who jumped up into a JCB bucket to escape, losing the leg of his trousers to the dog.

IRISH LAW ON DOGS.

Bumble the beadle said, "The law is a ass". He may well have stated a fact, but that is insufficient justification for ignoring it and, "Ignorance of the law" is not an acceptable plea in court. The owner is liable at law, for the actions of his dog. The old adage of,

"A dog is entitled to his first bite", no longer holds good, that is if it ever had any validity.



Int. Ch. Vagabond of Brittas

There **was** dire need for the Control of Dogs Act, 1986, to end the almost nightly slaughtering of flocks of sheep and curb the 'guard dog' industry, pit fighting and blood sports. Most of the provisions under the Act are just and equitable, easily acceptable by the vast majority of dog owners. However, there are a limited number of Sections of the Act where all balance and reason was lost overboard. Attention is drawn to them here, because bad law brings the whole legal process into disrepute.

Dogs must now be kept on certain specified premises, unless accompanied by a person and are "under effectual control". That is fair enough, even if it does deprive Bowser of "The Freedom of the City". However, "There is something rotten in the state of Denmark", which should read "Ireland", where it has become a criminal offence, punishable by a fine of £100, to take possession of an **8 weeks old** puppy, of any breed, unless holding a dog licence issued specifically for that dog. The breeder is equally liable, for it is unlawful, "- (c) transfer possession of a dog pursuant to a change of ownership to any other person unless the other person is the holder of a dog licence for that dog". With exception of garda dogs and guide dogs, **all** dogs, except puppies under 4 months, provided they are still with their mother, must be licensed.

Acquiring a puppy and staying within Irish law, now poses quite a conundrum. "It shall be unlawful for any person to keep a dog unless he holds - (i) a dog licence for that dog". Since a licence is issued in respect of a specified dog, there is no point in applying for a licence in advance of acquiring a dog and having acquired a dog and taken possession of it, one remains in breach of the law, until the dog is licensed. Therefore **both** breeder and purchaser of an **eight weeks old puppy** are in breach of the law, if the transaction takes place without a dog licence specifically for that puppy. No purchase, other than that of a firearm, is so constrained and legally hedged around.

To stay within the law, the intending purchaser must locate the puppy of his choice and enter a contract of sale, then find a Post Office open, which excludes weekends, to acquire a licence for his little dog and armed with same return to the breeder to collect the puppy. Justice Minister John O'Donohoe blows a lot of hot air about, "Zero tolerance".

If he ever applies it to the purchase of puppies, there will be howls of protest. How did an intelligent electorate become saddled with such stupid legislators?

The London government, quite rightly, banned the Pit Bull Terrier. Pit Bulls were bred up specifically for fighting in the ring, to provide punters of subhuman mentality with opportunities to wager bets. Such animals have **no** place in a civilised society. But eager to prove he could do things better than the English, Padraig Flynn, Minister for the Environment, before swanning off to Brussels, made an Order for twelve breeds of dogs to be muzzled when in public places.

In his arrogance and total ignorance of the canine species, Minister Flynn included some of the most docile breeds there are around. Presumably working from a list supplied by his civil servants, he based his selection on the formidable sounding

breed names, for he included English Bulldogs, who are among the most docile and inoffensive breeds there are. Being forced to muzzle them is absolutely ridiculous.

The criterion for muzzling dogs is very simple. If a dog must be muzzled, because of propensity for biting, then that dog should **not** be out among the public, muzzled or otherwise. To enforce muzzling of highly trained Utility Dogs, while under effectual control, is the height of absurdity.

Under the Act, measures have been taken to control 'guard dogs', but they have not gone far enough. There were prosecutions against 'guard dog' owners, for cruelty, and a few received gaol sentences. The **whole** business of training, renting and hiring out so-called "guard dogs" should be completely shut down and stamped out, along with the Pit Bull Terrier, Dolfs and Wogs. Then we could return to normal ownership of dogs and their proper roles, rendering utility services to society. At that point the legislators might be persuaded to amend, or even better, repeal certain ridiculous and unnecessarily harsh Sections, referred to in the foregoing, of the Control of Dogs Act, 1986.

One way and another the German Shepherd Dog breed has gone through bad times, in Ireland, during the past 25 years. Due to personal rivalry and dissension, there was a three way 'split' and, for a while, **3** separate clubs for the German Shepherd Dog, with a few score members in each, and another in Northern Ireland, making a total of four separate and independent clubs for the island of Ireland. What was to be gained by such diversification? Is it too much to hope for, in the new spirit of understanding and accommodation which is emerging, out of the darkness of the past on this island, that a group of admirers and devotees of the German Shepherd Dog would come together, from all parts of Ireland, to genuinely promote the interests of the breed, first and foremost, before any selfish personal considerations?

15 WOGS AND DOLFS.

What are they? They are the bastards produced by wolf x dog and dog x wolf matings. Historically the wolf has enjoyed a very bad press. Much worse than his actual depredations warranted, but give a fellow a bad name and he will never outlive it. As a result, the wolf has been hunted to extinction in many parts of his ancient ancestral

territory over which he held hunting rights. As a result, self-preservation has become his top priority. In captivity wolves become very affectionate and attached, to an understanding owner. I admit to being fascinated by them and under certain circumstances would have liked to own one. I travelled from Bremen to Berlin, before the Wall came down, specifically to study the fine colony of wolves in Berlin Zoo. That much is supplied to show I bear the wolf no malice in what follows.

What I am getting on my high horse about, is the recent infliction of wolf bastards on the canine population of Ireland and the outrageous claims made, by the purveyors of same, that the wolf is more intelligent than the German Shepherd Dog and the breed can be improved by introducing wolf genes. Wolf bastards were being imported to Ireland, while Padraig Flynn was imposing muzzling Orders on several harmless breeds of domesticated dogs, which makes the official position look very skewed.

The imports have been bred to German Shepherd females and the progeny sold on, at **double** the price of top quality GSD puppies, on the strength of spurious claims being made. The GSD has been targeted by those 'breeders' because both the genotype and the phenotype are so compatible with that of the wolf. Furthermore, any intelligence displayed among the progeny is most likely to come from the GSD parent. What those people are at is as safe as putting cans of nitro-glycerine into



Dolf. Result of GSD male mating a female wolf.

the hands of chimpanzees.

What motives, or objectives, lie behind crossbreeding the wolf and dog? Solely for monetary gain? Whimsical fancy? Scientific research to improve the dog?

Here and now people so engaged are challenged; 1. To present evidence of their experience in breeding canines and their knowledge of genetics.

2. Make known the aims and objectives of the hybridisation of two distinct species. 3. Produce scientific data in support of their claims, or that anything good is likely to come from their efforts.

Our regulatory body, the Irish Kennel Club, has remained remarkably silent on this pollution of the genetic material of *Canis familiaris* in Ireland with the genetic material of *Canis lupus*, the wolf.

Captain Max von Stephanitz, pioneer of the German Shepherd Dog and one of the world's greatest authorities ever to have lived, on **all** manner of canines, devoted 32 pages of "The German Shepherd Dog in Word and Picture", to proving that the notion of the German Shepherd Dog breed being improved by the introduction of wolf 'blood', was an absolute folly and nothing has happened since to alter that.

The scientist, Klatt, made a study of the brains of canines and among his findings were, that wolves have large brains and are very intelligent. (If one went on the size of the brain alone, as an indicator of intelligence, the poor little Chihuahuas wouldn't have enough brains to know how to wag their tails). Of much more significance were his findings on the frontal lobes of the cerebrums of wolves and German Shepherd Dogs.

Frontal lobes in the wolf amounted to 14.5 % of the total brain, while in the GSD it amounted to 19.4 %. In fact it is so large that the skull has adapted to house it, in the protuberance of the forehead. The cerebrum is the portion of the brain devoted to



a. Head of a wolf.



b. Head of a German Shepherd Dog. Note protuberance of forehead.

conscious thought and the frontal lobe of same is the seat of the higher emotions. That means that just on one fifth of a GSD's brain operates on the highest plane of intelligence. Where canine intelligence is in question the smart money will stay on the GSD, provided the breed is kept free from **all** genetic contamination.

The Englishman, Brooke, who bred and reared all manner of bastards and mongrel crosses, said he would rather have to cope with a wild female wolf than a wolf mongrel.

Owners, of either wogs or dolfs, should be aware that they give off the 'wild' smell of the wolf. On that account they should be brought nowhere near Borzois.

The Borzoi breed was developed in Russia, specifically for wolf hunting. They can outrun the wolf and kill it, by hunting in troikas of two males and a female. The males pinion the poor fellow while the female, always more deadly than the male, as Rudyard Kipling wrote, goes for his throat and throttles him.

We leave the last word to Charles Darwin, who wrote, "Crossing eliminates the virtues of both parent races. The only result is the true mongrel whose only characteristic is lack of character". Could anything be more damning on the misguided work of mixing dog and wolf genes.



**2nd gen. dog x wolf.
Protuberance increased due to
dog influence.**

BOOK TWO

16 SPAYING

"To spay, or not to spay. That is the question". At least it is, for the person contemplating acquiring a female puppy. For many see the prospect of the bitch being in oestrus biannually, as posing a major problem. In many situations and circumstances, a female would be indicated, in preference to the more robust male. People who are not physically robust, or are incapacitated in any way and families, where infants are present, where the strong maternal instinct of the female would be a distinct asset, often make the wrong decision, against having a bitch.

Before acquiring a female is the time to consider how to cope with her biological activity. A bitch may have her first heat anytime after eight months. Daily inspection, from then on, should detect the pre oestrous enlargement of the genitalia, even before she has sent out invitations to her boyfriends, to attend the party. From that point on she must be strictly confined to her private quarters and if that procedure is adhered to, she may over the crisis, without the attention of a single male dog.

There are fig leaf 'chastity belts' which can be fitted, but I would not trust the little lady out alone wearing one. Dogs can be mighty ingenious in overcoming obstacles. In case she does get your back turned and slips out for a bit of fun, then in the event of a misalliance, there is still a remedy left. Take her along to the veterinary clinic, for 'the morning after pill'. When not under supervision, a bitch in oestrus should be kept in a secure kennel, of concrete and steel construction. Bear in mind a love sick Romeo could pulp his way through a soft wood door, in a matter of hours, to reach his Juliet.

Never underestimate the resourcefulness of animals. When growing up in the Dublin Mountains, our neighbour had a bitch, another had a dog. He was large, a mixture of Collies and very noble. The bitch came into heat and her owner carried her up into a grain loft and tied her, as there was no door on the entrance. One morning he looked out the bedroom window and across the farmyard, to the loft. Looking back at him, was "Rebel", on the job

and tied, with a smile back to his ears. The owner of the female had thought it unnecessary to remove the three metre round rung ladder, placed vertically to the doorway, by which the male dog had gained access and rendezvoused with his 'lover'.

Owners of bitches bear the brunt of responsibility, for controlling irresponsible breeding of unwanted dogs and an awful amount of that does occur. Hundreds of thousands annually, in this small country of ours. It is not a formidable task to detect oestrous and protect the bitch, while she is going through it. Failure to do so is downright carelessness, or worse. Spaying, as population control, should not be resorted to lightly. Spaying and castration are both acts of gross mutilation of the individual. There are circumstances however, e.g., guide dogs for the blind, where there is no other alternative.

Vasectomy is an acceptable method of controlling male virility, without destroying their libido and masculine behaviour. Mating can take place normally, but having no sperm there will be no puppies. "No ticky, no shirty", as the Chinese laundry man said. German Shepherd Dogs should never be castrated, because it destroys their masculinity and character, leaving them worthless.

The eagerness of some veterinary surgeons, to castrate dogs, is nothing less than appalling. They appear on radio and television advocating castration of unruly dogs, who are that way disposed through the neglect of their owners to properly train and control them. Here we have members of a caring profession advocating mutilation of animals, for very dubious beneficial results, which leads one to question their motives and come up with a strong suspicion, that it is purely a case of diverting water to their own mill wheels, just for the monetary gain. If that is their motivation, then their peers should remove them from their profession. Knowing nothing about training and controlling dogs, they are advocating a surgical solution for a non medical problem.

Several clients, about to acquire bitch puppies from me, have discussed spaying and asked my

advice. Some already had sought advice from their vet about the best time to have the operation performed. What they told me severely shook my confidence in the veterinary profession for it was, "Let her have a litter first". My reaction, on hearing that for the first time, almost scared away the client. That had to be the advice of a screwball vet and there are nut cases in all walks of life. That conclusion was overridden, when the same comment was made to me again, and again, for a third time in all.

The sheer nonsense and downright stupidity, of suggesting to a person who may not know a thing about breeding dogs and does not want to breed dogs and is seeking advice on how to avoid doing so, to be told it was necessary to breed a litter before spaying the female, is DUMBFOUNDING. What is to be done with the unwanted litter of puppies?. Are they, like so many unwanted puppies, to end up in a sack polluting our lakes and rivers, or abandoned on a municipal dump, which has happened, to be buried alive, or killed and eaten by rats?. Or should they be brought to that very same veterinary surgeon and pay a fat fee for having them destroyed and then pay another fee to have the mother spayed, after putting her through all that trauma.

That advice, to "Let her have a litter first", is so irresponsible that any veterinary surgeon offering it

to a dog owner, should be struck off the register and not be allowed to practise in a profession founded on caring for animals.

Many bitches should not be bred from, because of mental and physical shortcomings. Breeding females should be from the top third, preferably the top 20 %, of the breed. Weak nerves, gross abnormality, severe hip dysplasia, etc., most definitely should not be bred from. In such cases spaying would be acceptable, as positive assurance they do not transmit their weaknesses. In those circumstances the bitch should be allowed to have her first oestrous, to ensure her femininity has fully developed.

Since there is no certainty how a puppy will mature, a final decision to spay should not be made when acquiring a puppy. Where and when the bitch puppy develops and matures, to breeding quality, she is an asset to her breed and there can be no justification for destroying her talents, with the hypodermic syringe or the scalpel. Leasing, on breeding terms, is an option, where her owner lacks motivation to engage in breeding. It is widely and successfully practised in Germany, where very little talent in the GSD breed is let go to waste, a policy which has brought the breed to excellence, in that country and keeps the German breeders at the forefront world-wide.

17 TOILET TRAINING



Hung out to dry.

“The breeder helps nature create the puppy, the owner makes the dog”. How your dog behaves itself, will depend almost entirely on the way you, the owner, treat it.

The first item on the agenda, for a new puppy, is toilet training. It will be the first problem encountered. In fact toilet arrangements should be in place before the dog arrives. What's the first requirement after a journey? Avoid a lot of heartache, by not taking an untrained puppy onto carpets, or rugs. Thermoplastic and wood floors should be OK.

A puppy may be trained indoors to use a cat tray of sand, sawdust, peat mould or other suitable substance, but the odours created discourage this method in the long run, although it may have to be resorted to, in confined surroundings, for instance an apartment. Common sense would indicate toilet arrangements, for the dog, should be out of doors. Dogs are inherently clean animals, when given the chance to be. Observe the puppies in the nest, soon as they can walk they will go as far away as possible to perform evacuation of waste.

Different methods of toilet training have been tried and if a method works for you, stay with it. One method is to cover the entire floor with newspapers and start reducing the covered area, to a sin-

gle sheet at the doorway, after the puppy has quickly caught on that on a newspaper is the correct place for his waste. Then, if desired, the newspaper can be placed outside the door and the puppy allowed out to use it when necessary.

German Shepherd puppies are so intelligent they can be and often are, toilet trained in 24 hours. A puppy will require the toilet after awakening, soon after intake of food and possibly in-between meals, while still very young. Watch for the warning signals, when s/he slopes off, nose to the ground and tail slightly raised. Then its time to get to the toilet and fast. Should an accident happen, you are mostly to blame, so don't scold the puppy. Bite your lip, count to ten and clean up the mess. Take a small swab of the urine, or faeces, and drop it where you do want the puppy to go. Mask the smell at the scene of the 'accident' with a strong deodorant, to discourage return visits setting up a latrine there. It is cruel and counterproductive to rub dogs' noses in their own dirt. People who do that to an untrained puppy deserve to have their noses rubbed in something obnoxious. When s/he does the thing, in the right place, be sure to reward with a word of praise, to reassure the puppy it has acted correctly and that is the place to use the next time.

HOISTING.

Practise picking up the puppy correctly. Not the way children do, by clamping both hands on the body and squeezing, forcing the tongue out at one end and something else out at the other. That causes distress, from being unable to breathe properly.

Arrest the puppy with your right hand when it is facing to your left side. Slip your left hand behind the elbows and grasp the forearm of the offside leg, firmly under the thumb. Then lift the fore paws, just clear of the ground. The elbows are now supported by your palm and movement is restricted. At this point you thrust the right hand between the hind legs, if male cupping your hand so as not to press hard on his gonads. Then lift gently, supporting the puppy evenly. Supported in that fashion, the dog is in the alert "down" position, so often assumed by dogs, because it is comfortable and they can watch what is going on around them. When the manoeuvre is carried out gently, you can play gyroplanes, or ballet dance around, with the dog held at arm's length, without causing the dog any panic.

Confidence in the owner is what brings out the best in a German Shepherd Dog.

The puppy is eager to display affection and loyalty to the provider of all basic needs. Even a drink of fresh water is a great treat. The new owner becomes the focus of attraction, by replacing the mother just parted from and the dog wishes to show appreciation, in the only way it knows how, by affection, incorruptible loyalty and endless eagerness to please. Why then, deliberately squander all the opportunity that offers, by carelessness, neglect, or overindulgence?. Rather than diminishing it, why not build your dog's confidence in you?

SLAPPING

Never, but never, slap a puppy with the hand. The hand, especially the left, should be the umbilical cord linking human to dog and should be safe, at all times, around and even in the dog's mouth. There is one exception to that, if the dog is injured and suffering pain. In that event the dog must be approached and handled with extreme caution and gently, but firmly, restrained in a manner that precludes biting, because, even the most docile of dogs may bite the owner, when suffering from injury.

After Condor vom Sandkotten SchH 3. V. had completed quarantine the supervisor, Maureen, came to visit him. They had become firm friends the day he entered quarantine, perhaps partially due to

having had a lady owner in Germany and Maureen, herself, was a great admirer of the GSD. She related to us how, each morning, she released Condor from his kennel and together they did the rounds of inspection, with Condor holding her hand in his mouth. He was a big dog, at least two thirds of her weight, very impressive in Schutzhund, but gentle as a lamb with all of his many friends. He was a great advertisement for the breed and Schutzhund training and for demonstrating just how safe a dog's mouth can and should be.

Neither should the leash ever be used, in punishing a dog. The sight of it should not inspire fear, but have happy associations, with going to interesting places. When in use it should not be abused, by constant savage jerking, on the check chain. A prong collar is better, for controlling the head-strong dog. The prongs lie flat, until the dog strains and then stand out. It may look cruel, but is not. The dog always has the option to stop straining. Or turn about and take a few steps in the opposite direction and frequently change direction, to confuse the dog as to destination.

For far too long, the rolled newspaper has been recommended by 'the experts', as an instrument to control snapping puppies. Do you put out a fire by throwing gasoline on it?. It is instinctive, for the dog, to snap at anything alien approaching its head and to bite back at anything that inflicts pain. By following the "experts" advice, you are taking the first step in turning your puppy into a snappy chappy and a mean junk yard 'guard dog' and that, it is to be hoped, is not your intention.

There is an acceptable way to use the rolled newspaper. That is by whacking the side of your own leg, making a sharp noise, to distract the puppy from whatever mischief s/he has got up to and then issue a stern warning to leave that alone.

Dogs of any age, from eight weeks to eight years and over can be successfully taken on by a new owner, if the person is prepared to build a trusting relationship with the dog. In the dog's eyes, his human master is almighty, the provider of life's necessities, who, in return, must be adored. Scent plays a major part in a dog's identification of people. Make sure your new puppy is immersed in your individual body scent, from the very start, by giving him a discarded garment, sweaty and unwashed, as a comforter to sleep with. That is 'imprinting', saturating the brain of the puppy, with your personality, by pleasant associations.

18 BASIC CONTROL

TWELVE GOLDEN RULES TO OBSERVE WHEN ASSOCIATING WITH DOGS.

- 1 Always treat a dog as you would wish to be treated yourself.
- 2 A dog may look friendly, but do not approach it without the owner's consent.
- 3 Avoid acting in a manner a dog might perceive as a threat.
- 4 Remember, no two dogs are exactly alike. Each has a different personality.
- 5 Children should never throw stones at a puppy. The dog will not forget and when adult may become very aggressive toward people of small stature.
- 6 Never pull on, step on, or walk near a dog's tail.
- 7 You have two hands to use - remember a dog must use the teeth when holding.
- 8 When you play roughhouse with your dog, always make sure an adult is close by.
- 9 Never stare a dog in the eyes. In the animal world that is a threat. Look at some part of the body, or at the ear tips.
- 10 Do not try to separate fighting dogs. Call someone who is more experienced.
- 11 Never, Never run away from a dog. Scared, or not, always try to walk away quietly.
- 12 Dogs have 'territories' to protect. Never encroach on a dog's 'territory', when the dog is eating, or touch the food dish, bone or toy.

The Rules were devised for children, but they can be of benefit to adults, too, who lack confidence, or experience with dogs. Very, very few dogs are naturally nasty. When a dog is vicious and very aggressive, then something very wrong has been done to that dog.

When in a dog's 'territory' stay as calm as possible and walk slowly past, in a circuitous route if possible, avoiding a confrontation. If the dog rushes toward you, adopt a submissive posture. Keep the arms close by the body and turn the open palms toward the dog, to show you pose no threat. The very wrong things to do are, to wave the arms about, run, shout, or order the dog away. The sound of a strange voice will cause further excitement and the dog will not obey the commands. Try praise, in a very low soft voice, to see if it works.

On no account reach down, or try to remove anything, in the presence of a German Shepherd Dog, for that would be inviting trouble, because the instinct of the GSD is to protect everyone and everything, within the dog's 'territory'.

Owners of dogs may become bad owners, by neglect, or over indulgence. Both ways have pitfalls and are potentially harmful. A good owner will control and influence the dog, to become an acceptable member of the household and acceptable to the neighbouring community. The owner who neglects to control his dog, is not worthy of owning one. Basic training, by which the owner exerts his will over the dog, cannot start a moment too soon. It should begin with the first food given, on the day of arrival.

Language, per se, doesn't matter to a puppy, so you can train him to any language you like, or to respond to numbers, semaphore signals, or whistles. When you acquire a two months old puppy, his brain is like a newly formatted floppy disk. There is a certain amount of information already there, necessary to ensure survival, but the area for environmentally acquired files, is almost completely blank. It is entirely up to you, which files go on his 'floppy disk' and whether any 'viruses' get into his 'computer'. Be careful to avert 'viruses', they may prove impossible to eradicate and are far, far easier to avert, by giving them no chance to develop.

TRAINING

What's involved in 'training' a dog? Is it very difficult? The dictionary defines it as, "Training is the process of bringing a person, or animal, to an agreed level of proficiency, by practice and instruction". There you have it, in two words, by practise and instruction. Not by wishful thinking, waving a magic wand, or by hypnosis, induced by breathing up the animal's nostrils, as some television personalities would have us believe, for some mysterious reason, known only to the practitioner, but most likely nothing more than creating an aura of mystique, around the personality on the 'box'.

There is no such balderdash about training dogs. Without exception, the young dog is more than eager to please the owner, who is also eager to get the dog to respond to his/her own wishes. So where do so many failures lie? In two more words,

bad communications. For anyone, of any age and IQ, who is prepared to build a trusting relationship with a dog, can train that dog to their satisfaction.

The matter should be kept simple and straightforward. Once I bought a book on the subject, by an author who had been very successful in obedience competitions throughout Britain. After the first chapter, I threw the book aside, in frustration. He made very simple commands complicated. Each command was broken down into several elements, step by step each element was then described and analysed, positive or negative. Perhaps I am dim witted, for by the time I had the next command broken down, analysed and reassembled, the dog had grown weary waiting and fallen asleep.

Dogs receive vibes from humans in many ways, visual, vocal, tactile, psychic, facial expressions, olfactory, demeanour, walk, etc., etc.. Through evolution, over tens of thousands of years, in order to survive, dogs have had to correctly interpret human vibrations. Whenever we are unable to communicate, with our dogs, the fault, almost invariably, lies with us humans. We send them garbled and often contradictory commands and then blame the unfortunate dogs for being stupid, when unable to understand our incomprehensible instructions and, fail to respond, in accordance with our intentions.

We have two powerful tools at our disposal, when training dogs and they cost nothing. They are the human voice and touch of hand. Used correctly they will train and control any dog. The human voice is the strongest tool for training and controlling the dog. Stronger than the check chain and leash. Practise using it correctly, to send unmistakably clear signals to the dog. Except for one or two command words, normal conversational tone is correct. Shouting will do no good, only distress and confuse the dog. There is no need to shout, for dogs have much better hearing than humans, their range is wider and goes way up into the stratosphere. Choose 'command words' that match the 'desired response'. Short, abrupt for quick action. Slow and languid for inactivity. Choose a list of 'command words', write them down and insist that every member of the household uses the same 'command word' for the same 'desired response'.

PRAISE

As 'positive reinforcement', the puppy is rewarded with food for good compliance. When older, in the absence of food, frequently praise your dog, by word, or gentle touch behind the ears, to show the dog is acting correctly and is pleasing you. Praise should be fulsome, in a very earnest low tone. Just one word, 'Good', is sufficient.



Start them early.

CORRECTION

When correction is necessary, the severity should match the age of the dog and the seriousness of the misbehaviour. To be effective, it must be delivered firmly and instantly, while *flagrante delicto*, leaving the dog in no doubt of what is causing your displeasure. The correction must be associated with the wrongdoing. Coming a second, or two, late the dog may make the wrong association of events. Delivered correctly, "(dog's name), NO", the dog, at 50 metres distant, will shrink to the ground.

Shepherds, in Germany, carried short lengths of chain attached to small blocks of wood, to throw in the direction of an offending dog. Personal practice proved that a small amount of grit, thrown at the dog, even without any of it striking him, was very humiliating for an obstreperous dog. Never leave a dog in a 'sin bin' under a cloud of disapproval, for the very next instant, after a rebuke, the dog will be more eager than ever to please you, because you are the centre of the dog's solar system and the dog has no other planet to go to.

Incidentally, only one member of the household should take control of the dog, at any given time. That person should praise, or censure, as appropriate and the dog should never be played off, between household members. The dog must obey the person who happens to be in control, even if that person is the smallest child in the family.

TOUCH

Dogs are gregarious animals and relish body contact. Frequently make contact, by gently touching the head behind the ears, with the fingertips. In Moslem cultures there is a strict division, of the uses made of the hands. The right hand is used at table and for greetings. The left hand is used for sanitary purposes and it is a grave insult to employ it at table, or extend it towards another person, in greeting.

Make a similar division of roles, when employing your hands with your dog. It will be good for your own hygiene, too. The left hand only, should be used when making contact with the dog, to stroke him, or offer treats for good behaviour. That will persuade the dog to come to your left side and convince the dog that, correctly close by your left leg, is 'home base' and the nicest place to be.

PLAY

Playing games forms a major part of the puppy's learning process, at first with litter mates and later

with humans and other animals. ALL training exercises should be based on games, which are fun for the dog to play. Play can be quite robust between puppies and the robustness can carry over into play with humans. Remember the puppy has to learn how far it is permissible to go and when s/he must stop. If, in the excitement of the game, you feel the teeth more than you should, do protest loudly, "Ouch. That hurts". Do not, retaliate by striking the dog. If warranted, apply what I like to call, "The daddy dog bite". The rationale of this manoeuvre, lies in the canine pack, where enforcing discipline is done by an adult. When a puppy pushes its luck too far and ignores a warning growl, action comes swiftly. The offending party is gripped with the teeth, by the nape of the neck. The puppy yelps, as if mortally injured. The fact that the yelping soon stops, shows the youngster was more startled, than injured. The adult could have inflicted serious injury, but did not, because that was not intended, nevertheless the lesson is learned.

Whenever the puppy becomes obstreperous, biting in play, excessive barking, chewing furniture, etc., quick as a flash, bring the hand from behind the dog and grip the nape of neck. If done for biting you, while holding the dog, thrust the injured hand right under the nose and warn, "don't bite". Almost certainly the puppy will lick your hand contritely. When you see the message has got across, release your grip and resume play immediately. It is unlikely you will have to repeat the correction. When making a correction, the intention should never be to inflict pain, as punishment. The young dog will learn the parameters of good behaviour, when exceeding them incurs your displeasure and the dog is instantly reined in for correction.



Ben Hur.

COMMAND WORDS

COMMAND.	TONE OF VOICE.	DESIRED RESPONSE.
HERE + (dog's name).	Loud. Peremptory.	Dog comes from afar.
COME.	Normal.	Dog accompanies handler.
FOOT.	Short. Peremptory.	Dog goes to left leg of handler, where s/he is instructed to, COME. STAND. SIT. DOWN or FLAT.
STAND.	Short. Slightly peremptory.	Dog stands on the spot.
SIT.	Short. Peremptory.	Dog sits on the spot.
DOWN.	Short. Peremptory.	Down, alert, resting on elbows.
FLAT.	Short. Peremptory.	Flat on side, dead.
STAY.	Drawled. Emphasised.	Dog stays in present position.
LEAVE.	Normal. Peremptory.	Dog leaves attraction untouched.
YIELD.	Persuasive.	Remove article from dog's mouth.
SEARCH.	Slow. Low. Persuasive.	Dog begins searching.
FETCH.	Normal.	Dog proceeds to retrieve article.
BRING.	Normal.	Article carried to, or with handler.
FORE.	Normal.	Dog goes ahead, alone, or of H.
LEFT.	Normal.	Dog turns 90 degrees to the left.
RIGHT.	Normal.	Dog makes 90 degrees turn right.
ABOUT.	Normal.	Dog makes U-turn.
CLIMB.	Normal.	Dog scales obstacle.
HOP.	Urgent. Short., as possible.	Dog springs over obstacle.
SHOW TEETH.	Persuasive.	Lift lip with finger and inspect.
WATCH.	Urgent.	Heightened alertness.
GUARD.	Normal. Earnest.	Leave dog protecting article.
OUT !.	Short. LOUD. Peremptory.	Dog <u>must</u> break off combat.
SPEAK.	Slow. Low. Hissing.	Dog barks.
QUIET.	Low. Slow. Very positively.	Dog stops barking.
UNLOAD.	Low. Encouraging.	Dog uses latrine.

APOLOGY

Apologise, to a dog?. Never. But it is important to do so, should you inadvertently hurt your dog, in any way. Should you tread on your dog's paw don't curse the dog out of the way, regardless of who was at fault. Grasp the injured paw and press it tightly, for a couple of moments, saying something like, "Oh!. The poor paw". Then drop it and give a pat or two. Instead of a wrong impression lingering, that will make the injured party forget the incident and be as happy as a dog with two tails to wag.

PRIMARY LESSON, a la Cotter.

On the basis that a dog, of any age, is far more alert and attentive before mealtime and will respond to your commands with greater alacrity, when food is in the offing, why not turn the dog's desire to receive the food to your advantage, in training the dog?.

At mealtime, call the dog, 'HERE (Mac)', even if only an arm's length away. A word of praise, for good response. Take the food dish in the left hand and turning to the right, giving the command, 'FOOT'. Use the food to attract the puppy to your left leg. Holding the dish ahead, just out of reach, start walking around, repeating the command 'COME'. Stop with the command, 'STAND'. Move off with, 'COME' and walk on a little more. Stop with the command 'SIT' and pass the dish, over the head, in the direction of the tail. Hunkering back, keeping the dish in sight, the puppy is forced into a sitting position, without being touched.

The next manoeuvre requires passing the dish to the right hand. Then placing the left hand on the withers (shoulders) and synchronising all three, give the command 'DOWN' in a firm voice and simultaneously bring the dish down past the nose, to the floor, while pushing the puppy down, until resting on the elbows. Restrain the puppy, while quickly freeing the right hand, leaving the food out of reach. Then bring the right hand, close in front of the dog's face, but not touching it. With the fingers and thumb apart, as if about to pinch the nose, slowly and earnestly drawl the command, 'STAY'.

The puppy will struggle, but hold him to 'STAY' for a count of three or four. The duration can be extended, in future lessons, but never to the extent that his gastric juices burn holes in his stomach.

Getting the desired response is what matters, not endurance records, at this stage. Then, with a sudden command, 'FORE', both restraining hands are quickly removed. When the puppy reaches the food, give him lavish praise and a gentle pat on the shoulder and allow him to eat some of the food, as a reward.

There should be no praise for STAND, SIT, STAY, or any command which demands inactivity, until that command is relieved by another, requiring action.

Return to the puppy and take a firm grip on the loose skin, at the nape of the neck. Utter a stern command, 'LEAVE', while hauling the puppy clear of the food. Pick up the dish and make a pretence of mixing, or adding to the food. Then the entire drill can be re-enacted for a second time, but not more than one reprise, per meal time. The sequence of 'SIT' and 'STAND' can be varied and down 'FLAT', or 'dead', introduced. At first combine the two commands 'DOWN - FLAT', as you push to the 'DOWN' position and then roll the dog over on his side. Later, when proficient, 'FLAT' should suffice.

From that first lesson, you will have become the 'great provider' in the young dog's life. S/he also comes to accept that, 'He that giveth can also taketh away' and must yield and relinquish to you. Non compliance, fails to reap rewards, by withholding the food. While performing that twice daily chore, of feeding the young dog, you can imprint your will on the dog, in the gentlest way possible, and the young dog learns that promptly responding to your commands brings rich rewards. Starting as young as eight weeks learning to respond correctly to those commands will form the basis and lay the foundation for all future training programs, right up to Schutzhund, police service and rescue dog service. If that little routine is performed regularly, in a very short while the puppy will automatically respond to each of those 10 very important commands.

TRACKING, kindergarten stuff.

Puppies are born trackers, so they don't have to be shown how. For confirmation read chapter 28. You can have fun getting your puppy to track to 'order'. Drag something appetising across the floor and hide it. Bring in the puppy and urge to SEARCH. When the puppy finds the hidden

treasure show how clever you think s/he is.

The foregoing can be conducted in the home during the 3rd month of the dog's life, while awaiting full inoculation. Do not take an unvaccinated puppy to areas which may be frequented by disease carrying strange dogs.

In anticipation of going public and in traffic, control the puppy, by means of a leash. All too often this is left until much too late and becomes an ordeal. The earlier this is done the more readily the dog accepts the restraint. Fit a tidy collar, or check chain, that s/he can wear at all times. S/he will outgrow a couple of them. Look for a combination chain and strap, which can be adjust, as the puppy grows. It was a great delight to see Loewe Castlewarden, a puppy we bred, full of confidence on the leash, at 13 weeks old. All credit due to his new owner, Terry Geoghegan. Newcastle, Co. Dublin. His picture is on the book spine.

There are but two ways a check chain can go on a dog, but it seems to go on the wrong way more often. Make a lazy P with the chain. For those who haven't read cowboy stories, a letter lying on its side in a ranch brand, was referred to as, lazy. When the dog is in front of you and facing to your right, slip the loop over the head, with the stem of the 'P' toward you and you have got it right first time.

Fitted correctly, the glide ring slides up and tightens the noose, when the dog strains on the leash and falls back instantly, when the dog stops straining. When fitted incorrectly, the glide ring remains tight, causing distress to the dog and may have to be manually released, while the dog is struggling violently.

SOCIALISING

This must be resumed, by the new owner, as early as possible, to lead to a well adjusted dog. The breeder starts the process, when the puppies start eating, at from 2 to 4 weeks old, gently picking up the puppies, stroking them, murmuring a few words softly, to accustom to the human voice and placing them around the food dish.

Scientific tests, carried out on dingo litters, showed when human contact was withheld, at weaning time, and the puppies only encountered humans after three months old, they never bonded as closely as those who'd had human contact at weaning time.

The new owner resumes the process, by exposure to outside influences, after the puppy is safely vaccinated, by intelligently introducing the youngster to strange people and animals. Where sheep farming is carried on, it might be a good idea to discourage sheep worrying, before it starts. They may have evolved shepherding sheep, but German Shepherd Dogs make very efficient sheep killers. Most dogs can do it. A long time ago I heard of a Collie, who worked with his owner's sheep by day and went into County Wicklow, by night, killing sheep. If not discouraged from it, all dogs will chase after sheep, in play, when the timid creatures run at sight of them. Terriers and toy breeds can wreak havoc on a flock of pregnant ewes, ruining a farmer's livelihood in a single night.

Having sought and obtained the livestock owner's permission, confront the puppy with the sheep, by repeatedly walking among them, with the dog securely on the leash. The slightest interest in the sheep must be severely censured, until the stage is reached that the dog will scarcely look at them. The dog must be made to realise that sheep are definitely NO - NO and not for chasing after.

FOULING

The fouling of pavements, by dogs, arouses very strong anti dog feelings, in a growing section of the public. In many districts laws have been enacted placing liability on the owner to remove dog faeces. Common courtesy should ensure that owners take action to limit cause for complaint about dogs. Local authorities could do more, by providing canine latrines at frequent intervals. All that is required, are a few square metres of sand around an ESB pole, where a fellow could go to lift a leg and study the Doggy Daily, or pick up the scent of the latest femme fatale to grace the locality. All done discreetly behind a low barrier, for modesty of course, but low enough for the leash to reach over. Plans and specifications available and supplied on request.

Before going on the street, the dog should be taken to the toilet area and told to get on with it and UNLOAD. A small out of the way area, patch of rough grass, will suffice. Wait a while and don't rush the dog. If s/he does wait until s/he is on the pavement, try and get the dog into the roadside channel in time. There the dirt will be a lot less

offensive. Dog owners must take action to avoid leaving ammunition, for dog haters to use against them, for when it hits the fan all dog owners get smeared.

BAD HABITS

Any bad habits a dog may have are, almost certainly, due to bad ownership. Quite unwittingly we build up trouble for ourselves, or allow bad behaviour to go unchecked, until it reaches nuisance level, when it may be beyond the competence of the owner to correct. At that stage some vets recommend castration and all too often the dog is disposed of, to 'guard dog trainers', for a 'fate worse than death'. Nasty dogs are sought after, for pit fighting, where they are pitted against each other, in mortal combat, by the scum of humanity, wagering large sums of money on the outcome, while remaining oblivious of the cruelty inflicted and the suffering of badly mauled dogs. As late as 1997, I received a telephoned enquiry, for suitable dogs for pit fighting.

Kissing a dog, or giving food from the mouth, is quite unhygienic. A dog is never particular about what it pokes its muzzle into and licking the nose is not a disinfectant. There are many other ways of demonstrating affection. Kissing also encourages that very trying bad habit, of the dog jumping against people. All great fun, when you are romping together and you are in your track suit, but not so edifying when you emerge in your finery and a wet muddy dog lands up against you in a bear hug.

That problem was referred to the "experts". The best they came up with was, to 'knee' the dog, in the exposed underbelly, in the manner in which convent school girls were instructed to deal with pushy boys. A knee to a certain part of the male anatomy would quench the passion of lust, sure enough, in clinches behind the bicycle shed and likewise 'kneeing' can have a disconcerting effect on the devotional love of a dog for his master. Being fond of the ladies myself, the bitches I mean, kneeling them in the soft underbelly was worrying. What about the damage it could cause to their reproductive organs and 'kneeing' a pregnant bitch did not appear to be the most intelligent thing to do.

The American 'expert', Ernest H. Hart, recommended grasping the forearms of the springing dog and holding him upright until the dog got thor-

oughly sick of the position. Hart must never have tried out his own suggestion, before putting it in his book. It is about the most stupid suggestion ever made, because it brings the dog into conflict with the owner, something that should never happen.

Go ahead and prove it, catch a springing dog by the forearms and see what happens. Straightaway the dog struggles to get free and he tries to free himself, with the only tools at his disposal, his teeth. What is he working his teeth on? Your hands and wrists. He is hurting. A dog bites when he hurts, so it is pointless ordering him to stop. Your hands are full, so what can be done to stop him?. Start a brawl by kicking the dog and be severely bitten by your own dog? No. That manoeuvre is worse than negative, it is downright stupidity. Having tried it, I can say it was ridiculous to print it in a book.

When leaping up to the face, in greeting, the dog is responding to primordial instincts. Since life began, countless mammalian and avian species have fed their nestlings with regurgitated food, or food carried in the mouth, or beak. The wild canine rubs his jowls in the carrion he is eating, to bring back a 'menu card' for the rest of the pack.

When you return home your dog simply wants to know what you've been eating while away and what you may have brought back. The counter-measures already dealt with are shown to be negative. Why not try something positive instead and direct the dog's eagerness to make contact into something constructive?. This exercise breaks my rule of not using food in training dogs, apart from puppy beginners class. All that is required is a dog treat, piece of dried meat, etc., carried with you. Emerging from the house, or returning to it, carry the treat in the left hand. The objective is to refocus the dog's attention away from your face. As the dog approaches, extend your left arm, with the treat in your fist, to make contact and give the scent. If the dog is rushing forward, make a quick about face with a side-step, to the rear and left, while turning around to your right. That will land the dog correctly at your left leg, your left hand will have led him into that position. The thumb pointing to the ground can be a silent signal for him to sit.

The treat is withheld until the dog complies properly. Allow him to lick the hand and caress him about the head and neck. Remain silent and keep your face averted, until his excitement has

subsided and he is calm enough to obey your normal commands.

COPROLOGY

This is a preoccupation with excrement. Many dogs, especially puppies, display this disgusting habit. When on excursions they poke their noses into every posy, picking up germs for their curiosity. Coprophagus is a stage further, when the infernal stuff is consumed. Why, is not quite clear. Perhaps there is an individual 'want', as more often than not, it is not done from starvation. Coprophagus is quite common in the wild. They may be into recycling big time, like the foreman in a Tallaght chocolate factory, long since defunct thank heavens, who insisted on rerunning trays of

rubbish, after rodent droppings were removed. His exhortation to staff was, "The secret in chocolate making is, there must be no waste".

Baby elephants consume their mothers' dung, from which they acquire enzymes to start up their own digestion of vegetable matter. Rabbits do it all the time. Perhaps that's what improves their fecundity. We have all heard of, 'Breeding like rabbits'. Personally I would not worry about a dog eating what he has just eliminated. In cold weather it is one way of picking up a hot lunch. Dressing it up with strong curry, or Tobasco sauce, that's if you get there quick enough, might discourage the little rascal. Then if s/he is silly enough to taste it, ridicule with, "yuck, shame". That just might get faeces off the puppy's menu.

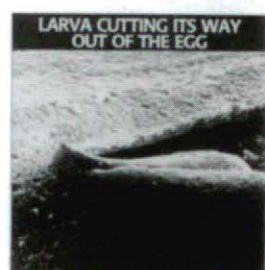
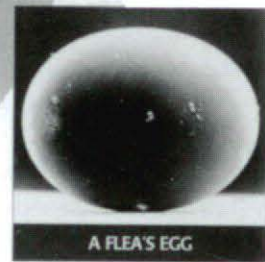
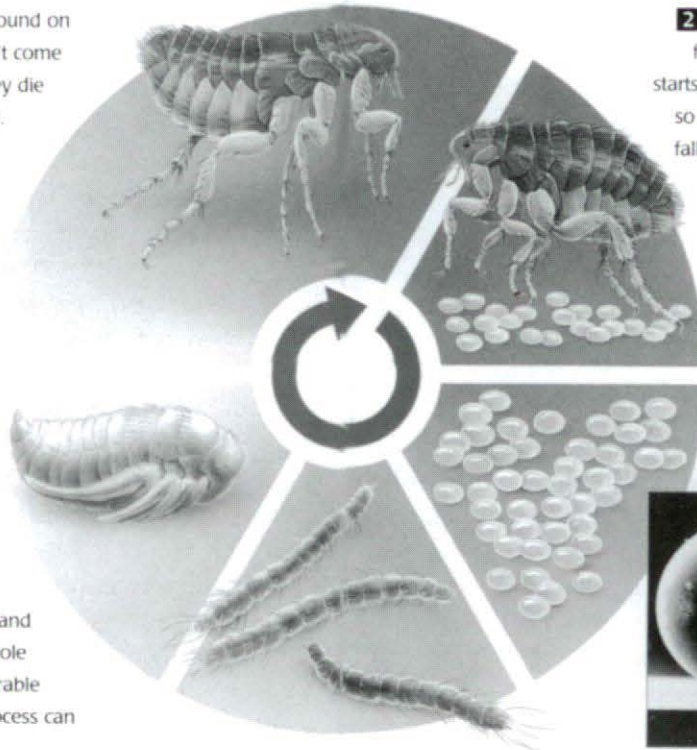
THE FLEA'S LIFECYCLE

1 Only adult fleas are found on dogs and cats. They don't come and go, but stay until they die naturally or are removed.

4 The larvae pupate and spin a cocoon, within which the adult flea develops. Stimulated by the warmth and movement of a nearby cat, dog or owner, the flea emerges and jumps on, to start the whole cycle again. Under favourable conditions, the whole process can take as little as 12 days.

2 Within 48 hours of its first bite, the female flea starts to produce eggs, 20 or so at a time. These simply fall from the animal's coat into the environment. (A single flea can produce over 2,000 eggs in its lifetime.)

3 Flea larvae hatch from the eggs and begin to feed on organic debris, such as flea dirt and tapeworm eggs.



With all his works and poms

Galerie der Sieger

1899 - 1999: das ist ein Jahrhundert Schäferhundezucht auf Schönheit und Leistung, das ist eine Vielzahl herrlicher Tiere.

Bereits im Gründungsjahr des SV 1899 führte die Vereinsleitung den Jahressieger-Titel für Rüden und Hündinnen ein. Nur durch Kriegswirren und Nachkriegszeit unterbrochen fanden die Ausstellungen jährlich unter

wechselnder Bezeichnung statt. Nachfolgend dokumentieren wir in lückenloser Folge alle Jahres-, Bundes- und DDR-Sieger und -Siegerinnen. Die Bildunterschrift nennt das Siegesjahr, den Hundennamen und die Zuchtbuch-Nummer.



1899 Jörg von der Krone
SZ 163



1900/1901 Hektor von
Schwaben SZ 13



1902 Peter von Pritschen
SZ 148 (a. d. Foto 6 Monate)



1903 Roland von Park
SZ 245



1904 Aribert von Grafrath
SZ 517



1905 Beowulf von Nahegau
SZ 733



1906/07 Roland von Starken-
burg SZ 1537



1909 Hettel-
Uckermark
gen. Wöll
SZ 3897

Drei Sieger:
Österr.
Champ. 1910
Wotan von
Emstal, 1908
Luchs von
Kalsmunt-
Wetzlar SZ
3371, 1910
Tell von der
Kriminal-
polizei.



1910 Tell von Kriminalpolizei
SZ 8770



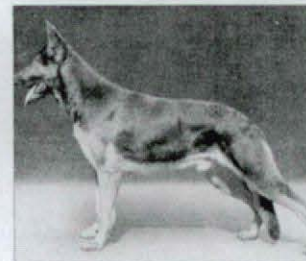
1911/12 Norbert von Kohl-
wald SZ 9264



1913 Arno von der Eichen-
burg SZ 24876



1920 Erich von Grafenwerth
SZ 71141



1922/1923 Cito Bergerslust
SZ 105327



1924 Donar von Overstolzen
SZ 220839



1925 Klodo von Boxberg
SZ 135239



1926/28 Erich von Glocken-
brink SZ 275752



1927 Arko von Sadowaberg
SZ 253491



1929 Utz von Haus Schütting
SZ 331999



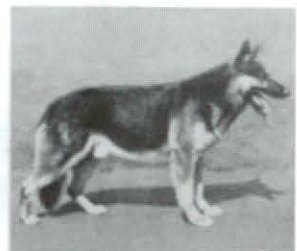
1931/1932 Hussan von Haus
Schütting SZ 375476



1933 Odin von Stolzenfels
SZ 406023



1934 Cuno von Georgentor
SZ 416055



1935 Jalk von Pagensgrüb
SZ 443657



1937 Odin von Busecker
Schloß SZ 463301



VA-Gruppe 1938 Zar von der
Starrenburg SZ 474952



VA-Gruppe 1938 Dewet
Preußenblut SZ 448423



VA-Gruppe 1938 Gerbod von
der Brahmenau SZ 486926



VA-Gruppe 1941/42 Baldur von
Befreiungsplatz SZ 508689



VA-Gruppe 1938/42 Onyx
von Foreillenbach SZ 488233



VA-Gruppe 1946/1947/1948
Claus v. Haus Werle SZ 569337



VA-Gruppe 1946/47/48/49 Cra-
lo v. Haunstetten SZ 574473



1948/1950 Asso von Eulen-
gipfel SZ 572905



VA-Gruppe
1950/1951
Rolf von Osn-
brücker Land
SZ 640721



VA-Gruppe 1950/1951 Drusus
z.d. Sieben-Faulen SZ 730199



VA-Gruppe 1952/53 Galant v. d. Padulusquellen SZ 783401



VA-Gruppe 1952/1954 Lido von Friedlichenheim SZ 764298



1955 Alf von Nordfelsen SZ 739163



1956 Hardt von Stüveschacht SZ 866378



1957 Arno von Haus Gersie SZ 874382



1958 Condor von Hohenstamm SZ 892020



1959/60 Volker von Zollgrenzschutz-Haus SZ 935474



1961 Veus von der Starrenburg, SZ 955904



1962 Mutz aus der Kückstraße SZ 958988



1963 Ajax von Haus Dixel SZ 996023



1964 Zibu von Haus Schütting SZ 971574



1965 Hanko von der Hetschmühle SZ 1029585



1966 Basko von der Kahler Heide SZ 104 5002



1967 Bodo von Lierberg SZ 1026197



1968 Dido von der Werther-Königsallee SZ 1080206



1969/70 Heiko von Oranien Nassau SZ 1112800



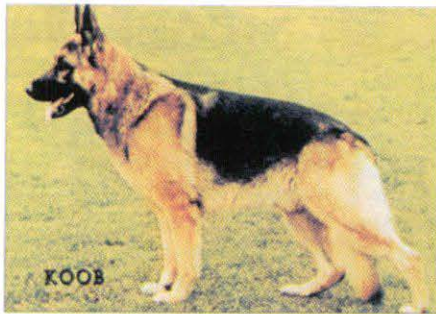
1971 Arras von Haus Helme SZ 1131467



1972 Marko von Cellerland SZ 1169323



1973 Dick von Adeloga
SZ 1233847



VA-Gruppe
1973/74/75
Gundo von
Kloster-
bogen SZ
1225419



1978 Canto von Arminius
SZ 1277394



1979 Eros von der Malven-
burg SZ 1389852



1980 Axel von der Hainster-
bach SZ 1398353



1981/82 Natan von der Pelz-
tierfarm SZ 1424615



1983 Dingo von Haus Gero
SZ 1449693



1984/85 Uran von Wildsteiger
Land SZ 1526684



1986/87 Quando von Armi-
nius SZ 1547134



1988 Eiko von Kirschtal
SZ 1607402



1989 Iso von Bergmannshof
SZ 1642314



1990/91 Fanto von Hirschel
SZ 1668730



1992 Zamb von der Wienerau
SZ 1696277



1993 Jeck von Noricum
SZ 1705812



1994 Kimon von Dan
Alhedy's Hoeve SZ 1788156



1995 Ulk von Arlett
SZ 1769704



1996 Visum von Arminius
SZ 178889549



1997 Lasso von Neuen Berg
SZ 1820256



1998 Rikkor von Bad Boll
SZ 1919865



Lady in Waiting Pamela C'warden.



The first arrival.



Towelling dry.



That's one up.



A big happy family.



Dinner time.

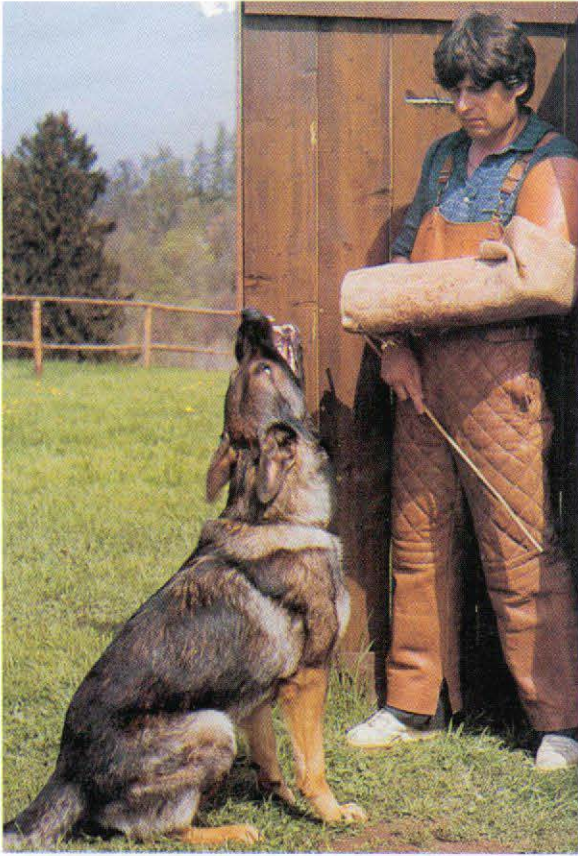


Washing the dishes.

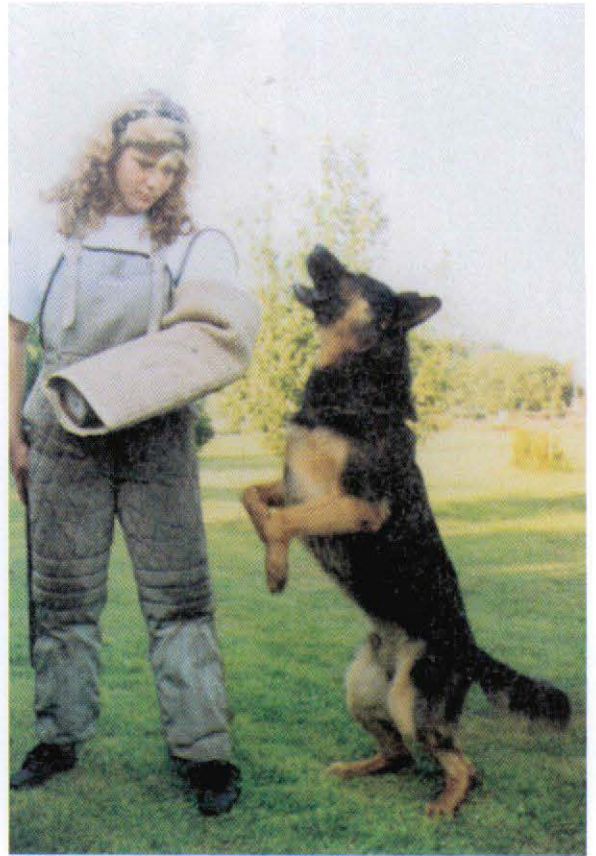


My. How they've grown in 5 weeks.





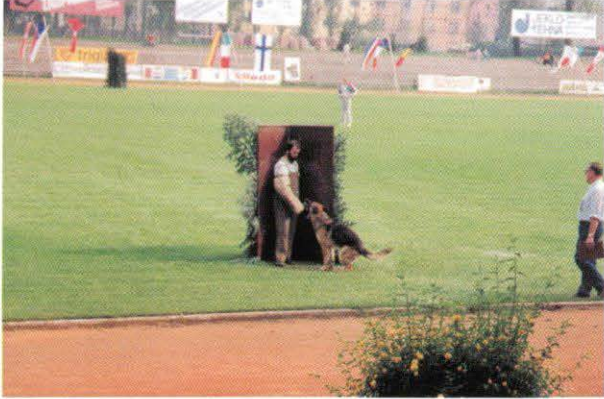
Announcing an intruder.



Very tall dog?.



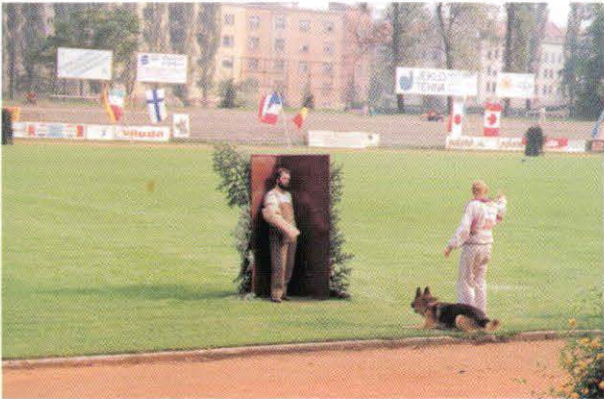
An arrest, from a helicopter.



1. Dog discovers suspect.



The owner arrives.



"Step out, please".



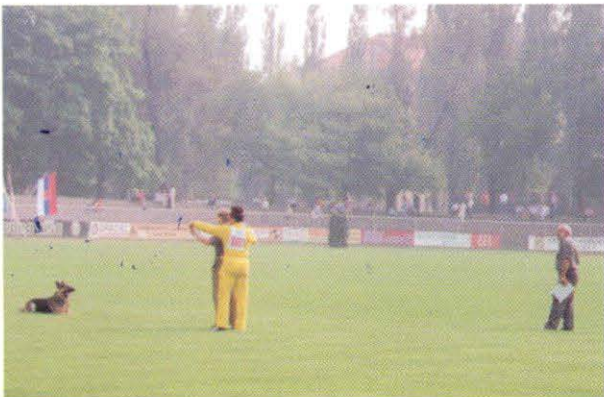
He's not getting away.



Brought to a standstill.



Surrender.



Disarming.



Transport, under arrest.



1988 VA4 +Yambo vom Wildsteiger Land
SZ 1586042 SchH 3. FH.



VA5 +Mark vom Haus Beck
SZ 1669141 SchH 3



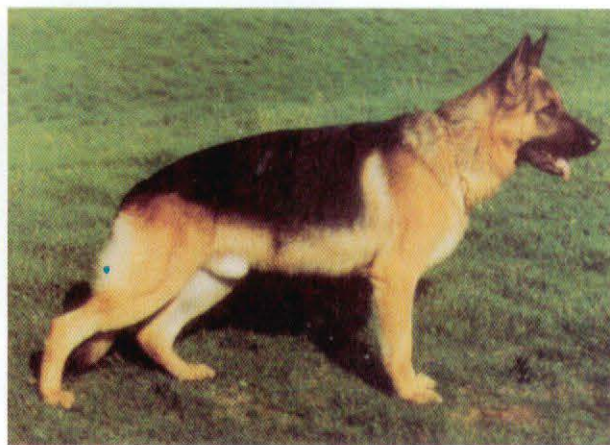
VA6 +Odin von der Tannenmeise
SZ 1655056 SchH 3. FH.



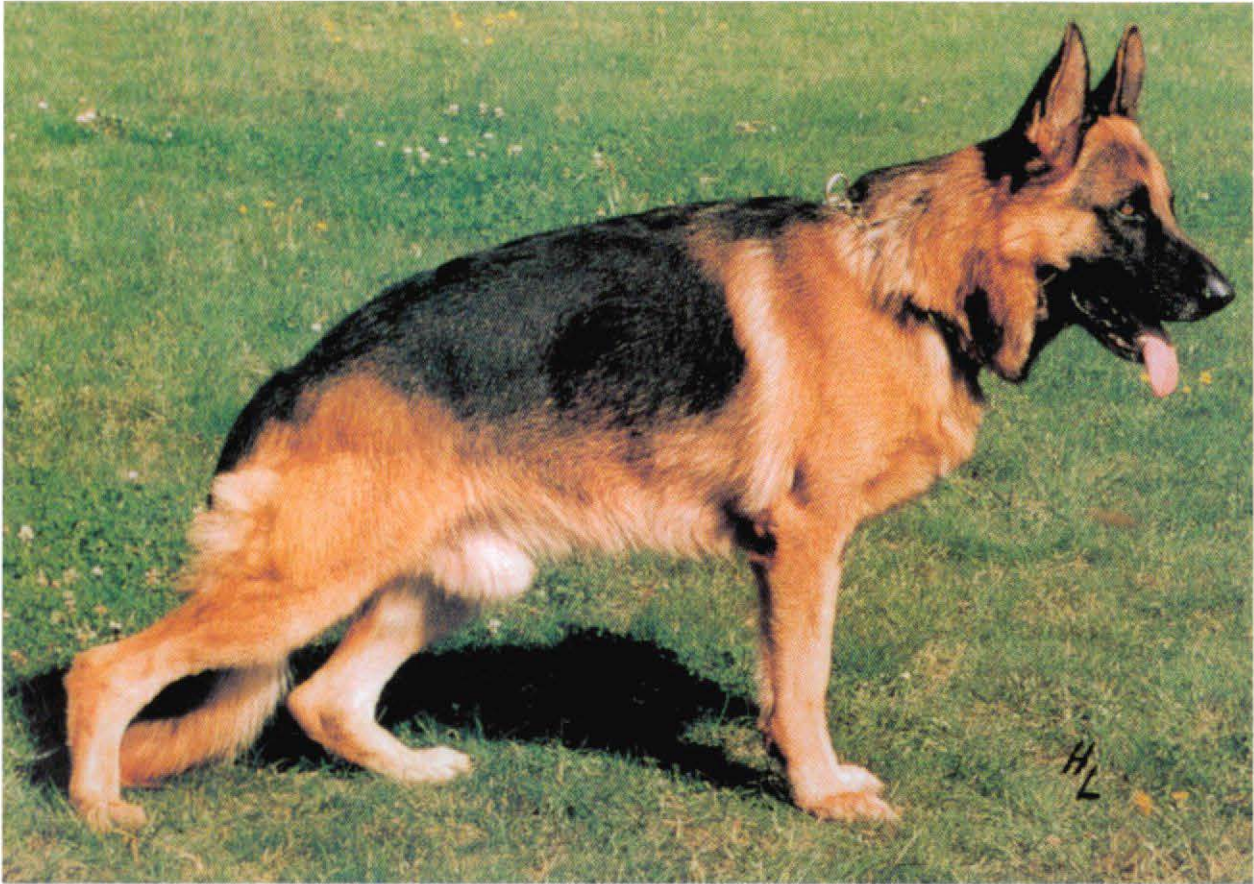
VA7 +Fanto von Hirschel
SZ 1668730 SchH 3.



VA8 +Fando vom Sudblick
SZ 1675961 SchH 3



VA9 +Don vom Lennefetal
SZ 1668047 SchH 3.



Sieger 1996 : VA1 +Visum von Arminius SZ 1789549 SchH 3. FH.



**VA2 +Cash vom Wildsteiger Land
SZ 1793773 SchH 3.**



**VA3 +Lasso vom Neuen Berg
SZ 1820256 SchH 3.**



**1998 Siegerin : VA1 +Anschy von der Magistrale
SZ 1916388 SchH 3.**



**VA2 +Holly vom Fichtenslag
SZ 1892825 SchH 3. FH1.**



**VA3 +Ginger v. Blickteuer
NHSB 1895386 VH 3.**



**VA4 +Jade von Blue-Rose
SZ 1926192 SchH 3.**



VA5 +Chipsi van de Herdersfarm
SZ 1961757 SchH 2.



VA6 +Unsa vom Hasenborn
VA 1931307 SchH 3.



VA7 +Woldarona von der Kahler Heide
SZ 1929466 SchH 3.



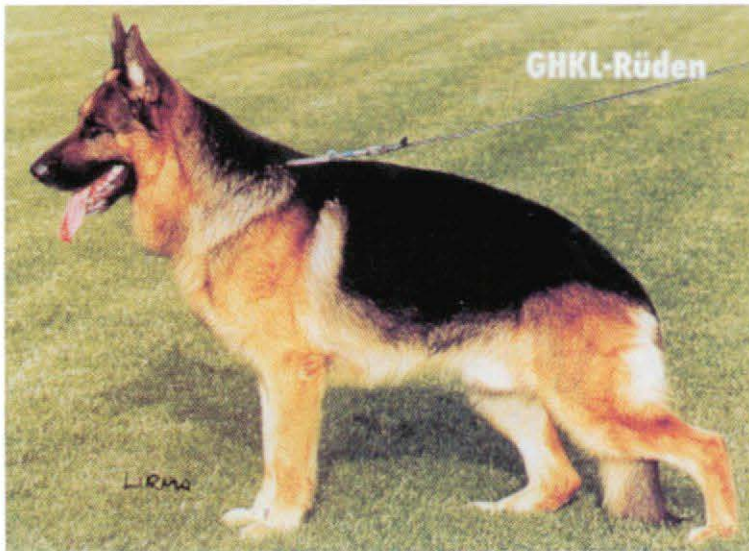
VA8 +Margit vom Huehnegrab
SZ 1956672 SchH 2.



VA9 +Xena aus Agrigento
SZ 1893887 SchH 3.



VA10 +Xanda aus dem Haus Zygadto
SZ 1947656 SchH 3.



Sieger 1998 : +VA1 Rikkor von Bad-Boll
SZ 1919865 SchH 3. FH1.



VA2 +Karly von Arminius
SZ 1829910 SchH 3. FH.



VA3 +Leif von der Noriswand
SZ 1926916 SchH 3.



VA4 +Odin von Hirschel
SZ 1925447 SchH 3.



VA5 +Jango vom Fuerstenberg
SZ 1896845 SchH 3.



VA6 +Timo vom Berrekasten
SZ 1969122 SchH 3.



VA7 +Jello vom Michelstadter Rathaus
SZ 1920002 SchH 3.



VA8 +Fello vom Farbenspiel
SZ 1927216 SchH 3.



VA9 +Enzo von Buckhorn
SZ 1930146 SchH 3.



VA10 +Ursus von Batu
SZ 1932624 SchH 3.



Zwingergruppe Haus Looser .



Hermann Martin in deep concentration.



"A dog's gotta do what a dog's gotta do".



Z'gruppe Nieuwlandshof, Netherlands.



Zwingergruppe Wildsteiger Land.



Wildpark Stadion, Karlsruhe, 07.45 Sun.

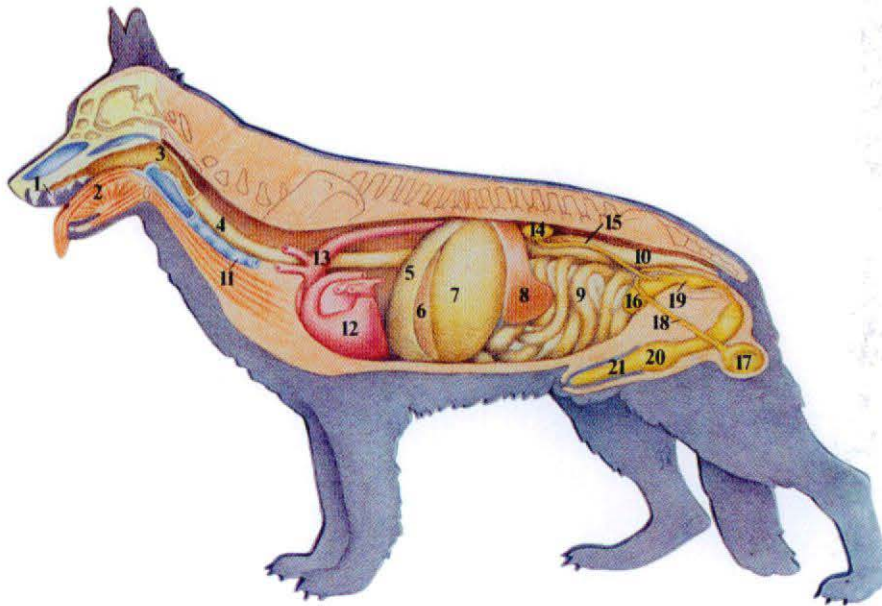


Siegerehrung - Honouring the Champions of both sexes.



'League of Nations', sitting in Mannheim, 1987.

MALE SEX ORGANS

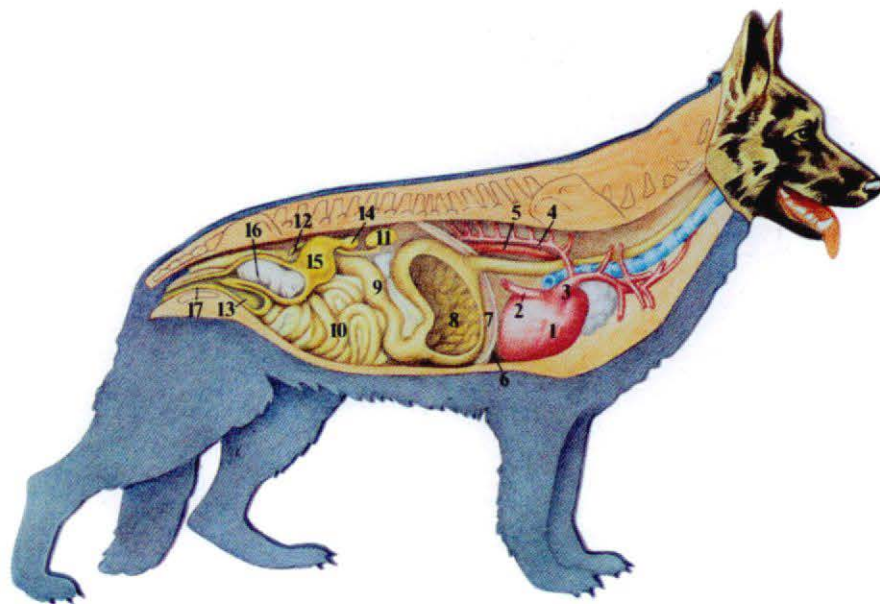


- 01. Fang, or canine tooth
- 02. Tongue
- 03. Larynx
- 04. Oesophagus
- 05. Diaphragm
- 06. Liver
- 07. Stomach

- 08. Spleen
- 09. Jejunum
- 10. Colon
- 11. Trachea
- 12. Heart
- 13. Aorta
- 14. Kidney

- 15. Urethra
- 16. Bladder
- 17. Testides
- 18. Vas deferens
- 19. Prostate gland
- 20. Penis gland
- 21. Penis

FEMALE SEX ORGANS



- 01. Heart
- 02. Rear vein
- 03. Frontal vein
- 04. Vein
- 05. Aorta
- 06. Diaphragm

- 07. Liver
- 08. Stomach
- 09. Duodenum
- 10. Jujenum
- 11. Kidney
- 12. Urethra

- 13. Bladder
- 14. Ovary
- 15. Uterus r. horn
- 16. Foetus
- 17. Vagina

MALE SEX ORGANS

Spermatogenesis occurs in the testes (17). Somatic cells divide by meiosis into quarters, which become spermatogonia. At this point the process differs from that in the female ovaries, which stops at four quarters. Replication continues and is accelerated to produce vast numbers of spermatocytes, which develop into millions of spermatozoa, male reproductive gametes found in semen. They are so numerous there are enough in a millilitre of semen to replace the entire GSD breed. Divided equally 50 per cent of those gametes have an X chromosome and the other 50 per cent have a Y chromosome, giving the sexes an equal chance, by which nature ensures there will be females among the next generation and, just as important, there will be males to mate them. Seminal fluid is added to carry the sperm along the vas deferens from the testes to the prostate gland (19) for storage in reservoirs at the gland. Semen is further augmented by prostate gland secretions. At ejaculation the fluid is sent along the urethra to the end of the penis.

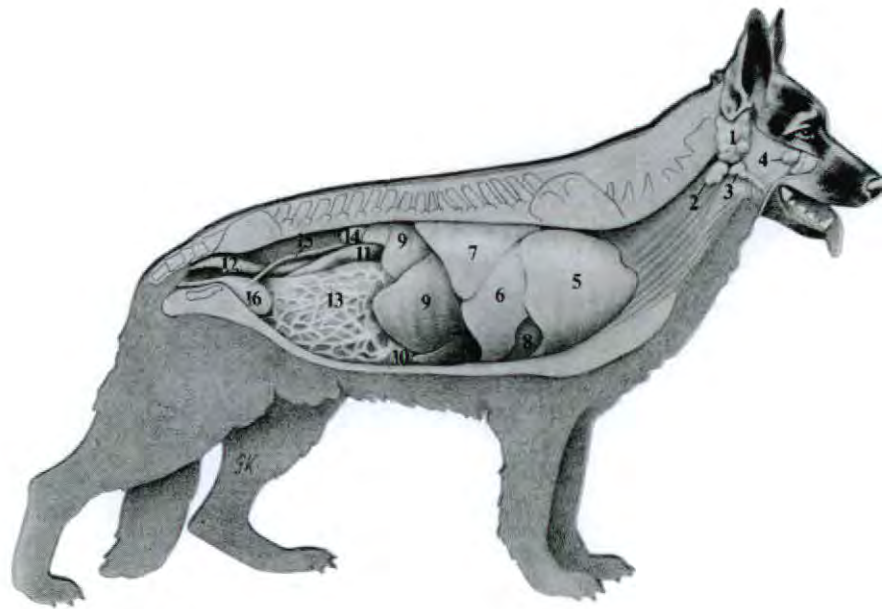
The canine penis has two important features;

- a). At the core there is a bone for rigidity when penetrating the vagina.
- b) A bulbous gland (20) which enlarges to produce the 'tie' during mating.

FEMALE SEX ORGANS

The ovaries lie close to the kidneys. Meiosis of somatic cells occurs in the ovaries. Each cell divides into four daughter cells and each one develops into an ovum. With the onset of oestrus batches of ova begin to ripen. Around the 10th day ovulation occurs and the ova are released into the fallopian tubes. Should a mating happen around the time of ovulation undulating wavelike motions of the uterus assist in bringing the wandering spermatozoa into close encounters with the less mobile ova. The uterus is wishbone shaped, attached by the tips of the horns to the fallopian tubes and at the cervix, or neck, to the inner end of the vagina. The actively moving male sperm encounter ova in the fallopian tubes and impregnate them. So soon as that happens a chemical reaction occurs which prevents other spermatozoa from crowding into an already fertilised ovum. One is usually enough, thank you, but there are rare exceptions, when two sperm penetrate the same ovum simultaneously, resulting in identical twins. At fertilisation the ovum and spermatozoo combine their chromosomes, to form the first cell of a new living organism.

19 NUTRITION



THE ALIMENTARY TRACT

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Ear gland | 9. Liver. |
| 2. Lower jaw gland. | 10. Stomach. |
| 3. Saliva gland. | 11. Duodenum. |
| 4. Upper jaw gland. | 12. Colon. |
| 5. Frontal lobe of lung. | 13. Net. |
| 6. Middle lobe of lung. | 14. Kidney. |
| 7. Rear lobe of lung. | 15. Urethra. |
| 8. Heart. | 16. Bladder. |

The digestive tract starts at the mouth, with food being chopped and crushed by the teeth. The dental pattern of carnivores inhibits chewing. Saliva is secreted from glands under the tongue to set up fermentation and facilitate swallowing the food. At each swallow the epiglottis rises, to close off the windpipe ensuring the food goes into the oesophagus, further back, to enter the stomach. The stomach is a large storage vat where fermentation of its contents takes place. Strong gastric juices are secreted through the lining, which has a special coating to protect it from being digested by its own gastric juices. The secretions are mixed through the food by muscular action and body locomotion. This churning enhances the breakdown of the food into a liquid mass, resembling brewers mash. At frequent intervals small portions of chyme are released through the pylorus into the duodenum, also known as the twelve finger gut. When there is fat in the food it will be detected at this point.

Detection of fat triggers the release of bile from the gall bladder to emulsify the fat. The duodenum funnels the brew into the jejunum, for a sluggish journey through this long, narrow intestine, where digestible nutrients are extracted, by osmosis, passing through the lining into the bloodstream which carries the nutrients around the body to numerous sites, for further processing and then metabolised. Indigestible matter passes on into the colon, for storage and periodic evacuation. Some further extraction, mostly recovery of fluid and some soluble minerals, occurs in the colon.

In zoography dogs are Carnivora, with relatively short digestive tracts, evolved for a diet at the top of the food chain, of flesh, internal organs and partially digested vegetable matter, the contents of stomachs. Since domestication, the dog has become omnivore, often forced to exist without flesh meat. Some are fed an all meat ration, when plentiful, in a mistaken belief that all meat is a good diet for dogs. The dog, no less than ourselves, requires an adequate daily intake of nutrients that are balanced in correct ratios and are of good biological value, which are easily digested, assimilated and metabolised.

The animal food industry has moved into pet food on a large scale. Increasing affluence means the family pet may no longer have to get by on kitchen scraps, when the family can afford pet food. Pet owners are becoming increasingly aware of

their pets nutritional needs and want to know exactly what is in the can, or bag, of pet food.

A vast amount of research, mostly in the past couple of decades, has gone into a search to find the exact nutritional requirements of many farmed animals and pets, including cats and dogs. To date they show that the dog requires over forty elements, albeit many in minute trace form, to support a healthy life. The functions of many elements have been established and deficiency syndromes have been recognised and demonstrated. Everyone knows something about nutrition nowadays, which foods put on weight, build bones, teeth and so on, well all of that knowledge has the very same application to the foods we feed our dogs.

We appreciate food by its appearance, taste and smell and it takes a mental gear shift to see it as basic elements, the way scientists look at food, when assessing nutritional value. They establish what an item of food contains and how much the digestive tract can extract from it. That is the important point, there is no sense in trying to digest indigestible matter. Bones, for instance, are full of calcium, but the dog's digestion is doing well to digest and absorb 30 per cent of what is available. The same applies to protein, there can be a wide gap between the amount of crude protein in a food analysis and the amount, which is termed digestible protein, which can be assimilated by the animal.

The chemical properties of food are classified under six main headings which are ; carbohydrates, protein, vitamins, minerals, fibre and ash. After absorption into the blood system distinctions become blurred as they are metabolised and, put simply, the body makes the best use of whichever food is put into it.

Carbohydrates. Fuels. They are burned, to give body heat and power the muscles to provide mobility, even life itself powering the muscle of the heart. The dog has a high demand and limited storage capacity, so supplies should be replenished regularly. Once a day refuelling for an adult dog and twice daily for a puppy or rapidly growing sapling. If the intake is inadequate, reserves of body tissue will be drawn on. In extreme cases of emaciation body building will be suspended and the proteins, normally used for that purpose, will be burned for fuel, to sustain life for as long as possible. A bit like burning the furniture to keep warm during a snow blizzard.

In Winter and when working very hard, there will be an increased demand for fuel = carbohy-

drates and the volume must be increased. A very hard working dog may require up to 600 kjs per kg of live weight. If this is done by increasing the basic ration the dog gets extra proteins, minerals, etc., which s/he does not require. Of course the extra protein will be burned off for energy, but it is an expensive fuel. Like using high octane petrol in the family car. Using protein as fuel for energy will burn more oxygen, which creates more waste carbon dioxide, which the body has to eliminate. It raises body temperature all right, but greatly increases the need for drinking water. Not a good idea. Extra energy can be supplied, more cheaply and efficiently, by the addition of fat to the basic daily ration. As the following table shows fat has over 20 times the kj's of carbohydrates.

Table 1. Approximate energy values from three main sources;

Carbohydrates	17.5	kilo joules per gram
Protein	24	kilo joules per gram
Fat	400	kilo joules per gram

Energy requirements are increasingly being expressed in kilo joules, superseding the good old calories. The exchange rate is 4186 kjs = 1,000 calories. The energy requirements of the individual are expressed in kjs per kilo of body weight. Minimum daily requirements are around 200 kjs per kilogram of body weight.

Protein. Foods rich in protein provide amino acids, which are the blocks the body uses in building and repair work. They are as numerous as materials on a building site and are put to even more uses. The entire body of the dog is renewed a few times in a lifetime. Demand for protein is greatest during the growing phase of youth and tapers off with age. High protein levels, say 27 -28 %, are only necessary for rapidly growing puppies, young dogs and Greyhounds. Older dogs will get by on lower levels, around 20 - 21 % protein. Some adult GSDs become hyperactive on high levels of protein, which their owners mistakenly believe are good for them. The costly food item produces a detrimental affect. Contrariwise, deficiencies of amino acids can be serious, lack of nicotinic acid, for instance, causes pellagra, a scaly condition of the skin.

The dog must extract over 23 different amino acids from the proteins in the food. Some can be synthesised from other proteins, but at least 10 are

vital for viability. They are ; lysine, methionine, tryptophan, threonine, leucine, isoleucine, arginine, phenylalanine, valine, histidine, linoleic and linolenic acid.

Amino acids, from protein, have a vital role to play in the immune system. Lysine is involved in the production of antibodies. Leucine and isoleucine are involved in leukocytes, the white blood cells also engaged in defence work. Histidine has a web effect. A dog requires 2 -4 grams of digestible protein per kg body weight daily.

Fish is an excellent source of protein and minerals. Our dogs never looked so well as when fish racks and heads were in their diet. Put through a mincer with 12 mm bored plates, then mixed into the ration and fed raw.

Vitamins are vital to health and have many roles to play, individually and in combination, in the formation of blood cells, bonding of minerals in bones and teeth and proteins in eyes, skin and hair construction and the activity that comes under that little three letter word, sex, which is influenced by vitamin E. The dog cannot store vitamins, although a limited number can be synthesised from sunlight, which the dog should not be totally deprived of, therefore vitamins must form part of the regular daily intake of food.

Vitamin D deficiency will result in poor teeth and brittle bones. While vitamins are essential for life, their use has been hyped, out of all proportion, by commercial advertising promoting their sale. Supplementation is often money wasted, as a varied and well balanced diet is unlikely to be vitamin deficient. In fact a surfeit of vitamins can be fatal.

The exception to the foregoing, is the lactating female. A bitch suckling a litter has need of extra vitamins and minerals, especially calcium and vitamin H, to avoid milk fever.

Water soluble vitamins are;

B1, B2, B6, B12 and pantothenic acid.

Fat soluble vitamins are;

A, D, E and K.

Daily requirements Vitamin	A	100 I.U.s
	D3	10 I.U.s
	E	2 I.U.s

Minerals. Amounts required vary and may be but a few parts per million, still prolonged deprivation can be demonstrated to show deficiency syndromes. The following are known to be required by the dog;

Table 2. Minerals required by the dog.

Ca. Calcium	P. Phosphorus	Na. Sodium (salt)
Fe. Iron	Co. Cobalt	K. Potassium
Mg. Magnesium	J. Iodine	Cu. Copper
Se. Selenium	Cl. Chlorine	Mn. Manganese
Zn. Zinc	H ₂ O. Water	Fibre and Ash

Table 3. Daily mineral requirements for dogs 20 -40 kg. Should cover all adult GSDs.

Ca.	100 mg	Fe.	1.2 mg
P.	85	Zn.	1.0
Na	80	Mang.	0.1

General observations on feeding dogs.

Absorption of nutrients, by the digestive tract, never reaches 100 % of what is available. 90 % is good and that can fall off sharply, in individual cases. The owner should develop a "stockman's eye" and rely on the physical condition of the dog, rather than on the weighing scales when measuring out portions. Cereals and vegetables **must** be cooked, or par-boiled to break down the starches, for the canine digestion to get a grip on them.

Cooking meat for dogs considerably **reduces** the nutritional value and adds to the cost, but may have to be resorted to, where disease is a risk. Raw meat **most certainly does not** make a dog savage or vicious. Cooking liver **destroys** thiamine, the vitamin B complex. Save yourself the expense. Liver is an excellent food, up to 10 %, beyond 15 % of total intake liver becomes a laxative and the loss will be greater than the gain.

Canned foods should be avoided like the plague. Tins contain approximately 85 % water, which comes free from most faucets. Tinned food is bad for canine teeth and all those empty cans rusting away. Think of the environment

As regulations controlling the disposal of meat offal become increasingly stringent compounding dog diets at home, that are nutritionally balanced, is becoming increasingly difficult. The best recommendation to the dog owner, in most circumstances is, to buy 20 kg packs of complete dry dog food, in meal, kebble or nut form, which has a reliable brand name, not necessarily the dearest and if the dog thrives on it, stay with it. Nuts are best fed dry

to an adult, they are good for the teeth, and provide plenty of drinking water.

TURKEY, warning.

After each festive season, Christmas, Easter, etc., there is an influx of dogs, sickened on turkey, to veterinary clinics. Be kind to your dog and avoid feeding foods which may injure health. **Turkey** and **chocolate** should be avoided. It is downright stupid to give a dog chocolate.

SUMMARY, of foods ;

Carbohydrates.	Fuels for heat and power. Fats are the best source.
Protein.	Building materials and defence forces.
Minerals.	Aggregates in the concrete, for bone, etc..
Vitamins.	Mortar bonding the mix together.
Fibre.	Bulk to keep the traffic moving.
Ash.	Unavoidable ballast.

POISON

From time to time poisoners are active. Strychnine and Paraquat laced foods are their favourite tools, which produce death for the dog, in horrifying agony. One dog was poisoned at Limerick GSD Show, presumably by an individual who would have us believe was an 'admirer' of the breed and another very valuable dog was poisoned in the "von der Pelztierfarm" kennel, in Germany.

Discourage your dog from accepting food from outsiders. If seen consuming something suspect, administer an emetic agent immediately, otherwise it will be too late. If there is any risk, from poisoning, condition your dog to reject food 'gifts'. Have an outsider deliver attractive morsels of food, with absolutely none of your own scent on them, heavily injected with a truly vile tasting, but non toxic, substance.



Dog refusing food from a stranger.

Repeat the procedure occasionally, least the dog forget.

STOMACH TORSION.

This infrequent misadventure, leading to death, occurs when the stomach spins round on its own axis, within the abdominal wall. The apparent cause is a sudden radical change of direction as the animal is moving energetically. While the body turns in a new direction, momentum energy carries the stomach on the original course, so that the wall of the abdomen actually rotates around it. The action is similar to closing a paper packet, by holding the corners and rotating it between the hands. The points of axis, the oesophagus and pylorus, are sealed off so continuing fermentation of stomach contents causes painful distension of the abdomen. In addition, usually there is associated damage to liver and spleen. The occasional dog's life has been saved by immediate veterinary intervention, but the majority are dead by the time the veterinary surgeon reaches them

In the only incident I am personally aware of a child fed her 7 months old Jake Castlewarden before playing ball with him. Jumping for the ball he slumped to the ground and was dead when the vet saw him. A full stomach appears to greatly enhance the risk.

The recommendation is to feed last thing after the day's, or night's, activities have ended and allow the dog digest the meal while resting quietly.

20 PARASITES

A parasite is an organism which exists in, or on, another organism, drawing sustenance from the host and giving nothing but bother in return, which may vary from negligible discomfort to life threatening. The dog is afflicted by a full quota of parasites and as s/he cannot do much unaided about those problems, it behoves every owner to have a knowledge of parasites and the treatments required for their control. They divide easily into two main categories; external and internal. Some, in both categories, can affect humans, but many do not cross the species barrier. The most serious are internal, some of the many varieties of intestinal worms. No one should engage in, or even be allowed to engage in, dog breeding without a sound working knowledge of the life cycle of the roundworm and the havoc caused by infestation among very young puppies, plus the serious risks to humans of cross infection.

Ascarids and other roundworms are common to man, pig, dog and other mammals. Three billion people, half of the human race, have antibodies against worm larvae, proving every second one of us has been affected by ascarids, or nematodes. They come in variety, with several names. They are unsegmented and have a tough cuticle exterior, which is tapered at both ends. When expelled they resemble small plastic knitting needles, about 6 to 10 centimetres long. Adult worms are free moving in the contents of the small intestine. There they set up home, enjoying full board and lodging free and with no work to do enjoy a most productive sex life. With uterus and ovaries comprising one third of the worm, a female can produce 200,000 eggs a day. Worm eggs are passed out in vast quantities with the faeces and scatter about. Nature devises ingenious methods of aiding propagation, for the eggs are not smooth, but have a rough surface which adheres to the skin and hair around the anus, to drop off at random later. The eggs require a period of two weeks to 'ripen' and prepare for the next stage of incubation. They can survive for up to 2 years, resist sunlight and most disinfectants and temperature up to 70 C.

Ripened eggs are ingested orally, with food and water, or just by licking. The egg survives the acid bath of the stomach and passes into the jejunum, where the incubation is completed and a tiny larva

emerges and joins the nutrients, being extracted by osmosis, to slip through into the bloodstream, which carries it around the body. Very many larvae become trapped in body tissue and are inhibited in growth, but do not die, they just remain dormant. Some get lucky and are trapped in the very fine capillaries encircling the alveoli air sacs in the lungs and tunnel their way out into the air tubules. Severe infestation of the lungs causes parasitic pneumonia.

Then its up the Skager Rak and down the Kattegat to wonderful, wonderful Colnhagen (sic), with apologies to Danny Kaye. The thriving larvae crawl, or are coughed up the trachea and swallowed down the oesophagus. They are tough enough to withstand the gastric juices in the stomach and arrive safely in jejunum land, to join their friends and relations after a long circuitous journey. They may not have sun, sea and sand there, but when they mature to adults they sure have oodles of sex and start egg production big time, to keep their little game going on and on for ever.

When a bitch is six weeks pregnant hormonal changes occur, which act like alarm clocks going off, awaking larvae which have lain dormant throughout her body. The reawakened 'sleepers' hitch a ride in the blood and arrive at the uterus, where some manage to slip through the placental barrier, into the livers of the foetuses. So the unfortunate puppies are actually **born** with a worm burden. If that wasn't bad enough, more of them take a short cut, down to the mammary glands, and are sitting there, waiting to be imbibed by the puppies with the first sip of their mother's milk.

There is a risk to humans, although the odds may be a million to one, of a worm larva becoming trapped in and blocking the capillary supplying blood to an eye, with consequent loss of sight. The condition is known as toxocariasis. The over protective parent, who denies a child the pleasure of a puppy, on these grounds, may not be acting in the child's best interests, for it is safer to play with a properly maintained puppy, than in a communal playground. In hygiene conscious Germany, 10 % of all soil samples taken from children's play areas, in Berlin, were found to contain the eggs of ascarids.

When we started breeding German Shepherd Dogs at Castlewarden, we followed the current

advice and dosed the puppies for worms at the age of five weeks, which was far too late. When a puppy died at four weeks and an autopsy revealed the stomach empty of food, but full of roundworms resembling a ball of wool, the first dose date was brought down to day 21 in the puppy's life. Subsequent research, in Germany, showed puppies can have mature egg laying ascarids as young as **two weeks**. 14 days is all the time it takes for larvae to develop into full grown egg laying adult roundworms.

To have reasonable success in round worm control dosing should commence on day 13 and not later than the 14th day after birth and be repeated every 12 days from then on, while the puppy is in the nest, so as to catch the next batch coming through, in the pipeline, before they go into egg production. In a new home, it is absolutely essential, if there are children, that the dog should receive anthelmintic treatment every three months, at least until adult. Heavy infestations of roundworms are a puppyhood phenomenon and much less likely to affect adult dogs. Where reassurance is required, a faeces sample, examined under a microscope by a veterinary surgeon, will reveal the presence of roundworm eggs.

Dosage rates, like recommended feeding rates, are often given by body weight of the animal. A puppy will not stand quietly on a scales. A quick way to ascertain the weight of your dog, is to pick him up in your arms and step on a bathroom scales. Subtract your own weight, as tare and there you are, left with the weight of the dog.

Piperazine is inexpensive, a very safe and reasonably effective drug to use expelling ascarids. It will affect only those in the digestive tract. The recommended dosage is one 500 mg tablet per 4.5 kilos of body weight. We start with a half tablet and use a full tablet after that, which is grossly above the recommended dose rate, without any noticeable harmful results.

Panacur holds greater hopes, by knocking out the larvae stage as well, even the inhibited growth stage 'sleepers', it is claimed. From that there is hope that future generations of dogs will start life without a roundworm burden, breaking the eternal cycle of ascarid infestation of puppies.

An anecdote about dosing. A client, who had purchased a puppy, about a fortnight earlier, came on the 'phone. He was worried about the puppy, who was passing stools wrapped in a mucous substance, presumably the mucus lining of the intes-

tine. A questions and answers session threw no light on what could be the cause. Then the caller volunteered that he had 'wormed' the puppy. No harm in that, was the reassuring reply, that was proper procedure. Then the bombshell was dropped. When he did not see worms after dosing, he redid the job and liberally increased the dosage, for jolly good measure. Asked how could the puppy pass worms, if he had none, the reply was, "I never thought of that". At times it is hard to suffer fools lightly and on hearing that I erupted and have never since heard how the puppy fared out, who was unlucky enough to draw such an unthinking owner.

TAENIA. Tapeworms.

There are eight teams playing in this league. Here are some of the team names ; dypylidium caninum, mesocestoids, echinococcus SPP, echinococcus granulosis, echinococcus multilocularis. The others elude me at the moment. Tapeworms are hermaphrodites, dispensing with sexual partners for procreation.

Dypylidium caninum, the flea host tapeworm of the dog is the most interesting, because of its unique life cycle and its widespread prevalence. Mother nature must have been in a quirky mood when she made allies of two parasites, one internal the other external, to plague her unfortunate dog. Tiny dypys clamp their mouths to the lining of the gut, by means of a hook arrangement on their heads and grow and grow in a segmented ribbon, to over half a metre in length. The segments thicken and broaden towards the end, occasionally breaking off and passing outside adhering to the faeces, where they continue expanding and contracting, as if alive. They are easily identifiable, rectangular in shape, about 1 cm and putty coloured. These are baskets of eggs, about 2 dozen to a basket.

Now the flea, another unwelcome passenger on the dog, has also gone into the egg trade and flea eggs have been delivered wholesale wherever the dog frequented. The eggs hatch unaided and flea larvae emerge. These little fellows have voracious appetites and swallow everything within reach, which happens to include dypy eggs. The flea larva is unable to digest the egg it had for breakfast and a cyst forms around it, so the flea larva ends up with a little dypy larva inside. Could this have inspired, "Big fleas have little fleas on their backs to bite 'em and little fleas have littler fleas on their backs to bite them, and so on *ad infinitum*". Little dypy falls asleep inside the host and sleeps right

through the metamorphosis of the flea larva into a fine healthy flea looking for a dog to support him for the rest of his life and not the least bit troubled by the little passenger that's inside.

Having hopped on a passing dog, just like we hop on a bus, the flea is so happy it plays hop, skip and jump all over the dog and disturbs his rest, biting and sucking out blood, so the dog hunts after the little acrobat. When the dog gets lucky, catches and swallows the flea whole, then that's a none event for the tapeworm larva, which remains locked inside the flea for an uneventful journey along the dog's digestive tract. However, the story is entirely different, should the dog crack the flea. Then the dypy egg rolls out and the larva incubates, so the dog has rid himself of one pest in exchange for another, for passing along the intestine, the larva gets its hooks into the dog and dypylidium caninum is back where it wanted to be, sucking sustenance from the dog's intestines.

Taenia are extremely difficult to remove and require specific anthelmintics. Droncit, produced by Bayer, is a taeniafuge much relied on. It might be a good idea, before wasting cash, to take a few 'egg baskets' along to the vet, for species identification under the microscope. That way the correct 'eviction notice' can be served.

ANCYLYSTOMA CANINUM

Hook worms of the dog.

Hook worms are so called because of their hooked mouths. They inhabit the intestine hooked to the membrane. They are bloodsucking parasites and cause anaemia, in addition they produce toxins and general discomfort and the nuisance of all worm species.

Larvae enter the host by boring through the dermis. They cause a disease known as, ancylostomiasis. Quite a mouthful. Its Greek, for hooked mouth disease.

TRICCHORIS VULPIS, Whip worms.

Whip worms infest the intestine and caesium. Thin and whiplike in appearance. They can be expelled by the usual vermifuges.

DIROFILARIA IMMITIS, Heart worms.

Heart worms are a deadly hazard for dogs in the Tropics and subtropics. Larvae are carried and deposited by blood sucking insects. The threadlike worms live in the bloodstream and cause a condition known as filariasis when they cram into the

lymphatic system. A further complication caused by chronic filariasis is called elephantiasis. Nematodes block the lymphatic vessels from the extremities, especially the legs, resulting in extreme enlargement of the limb, caused by water logging.

Treatment of dirofilaria and filariasis **must** be left to the veterinary surgeon and the medical doctor.

ECTO (external) PARASITES.

FLEAS

Siphonaptera, or fleas, are well known. When present they constantly disturb the dog by their activities, biting, sucking blood and playing about. Some of these little gymnasts can jump 500 times their own height. It is no shame for your dog to pick up fleas, but it is shameful to allow them make the dog's life miserable indefinitely.

Clenocephalides felis, Cat flea, is the most commonly encountered. The life cycle of the flea goes something like this. Alerted by the vibrations from nearby movement, or body warmth, the adult flea emerges from its cocoon and hops on the dog, cat or human. In a day or two female fleas start laying eggs, as many as 20 at a time and may lay from one to two thousand eggs in her life time. Eggs drop off the host animal at random and the larvae incubate inside the eggs unaided. Flea larvae devour whatever organic matter they come upon, flea dirt is a favourite food. When mature the larva spins a cocoon within which it metamorphosis to an adult flea, to go round the cycle once more. Carpets and matting, for bedding, create ideal harbourage for flea larvae and if indoors, at normal room temperature, are 7th heaven for fleas, where their life cycle may be completed in under 2 weeks. In less favourable conditions it may take over one year to complete a cycle.

Chemically impregnated collars are available, which are worn constantly for some months, which is the active life of the chemical. We have never used them and would be reluctant to subject a dog to constant contact with a chemical.

Tixol will certainly see them off, but the eggs they have laid will hatch out and reinfest over the next couple of months, so the treatment must be repeated, to deal with the 95 % of the flea population not on the dog, but on safari in carpets and bedding, at the time of the first treatment.

Advantage, a Bayer product, is simpler to apply and appears to be more effective long term. It is supplied in a range of dose size tubes to suit cats and dogs. An adult German Shepherd Dog will

require two 2.5 mil tubes. The contents are squeezed onto the skin at the top of the shoulders and on the croup, above the root of the tail. The active ingredient spreads over the skin in 24 hours, but does not penetrate the skin. It is claimed to be effective for one month.

MANGE

Otodectic mange mites. Mange mites that are specific to the ear. They live deep down in the mussels of the ears. The depredations they cause, by tunnelling and mining activity, produce dross heaps of a dark waxy substance inside the ear, sometimes overflowing like lava to the outside. The dog holds the head tilted and lets the ear splay out, will shake the head and try to scratch, or rub, the affected ear which has become very painful. The patient should be handled very gently. Washing up liquid, squirted in neat, or diluted, straight out of the bottle, will dissolve the wax, but will not remove the mites. The veterinary chemist will supply ear drops to do that. Oridermyl is recommended. Don't expect a once off cure, the problem is likely to be more persistent than that.

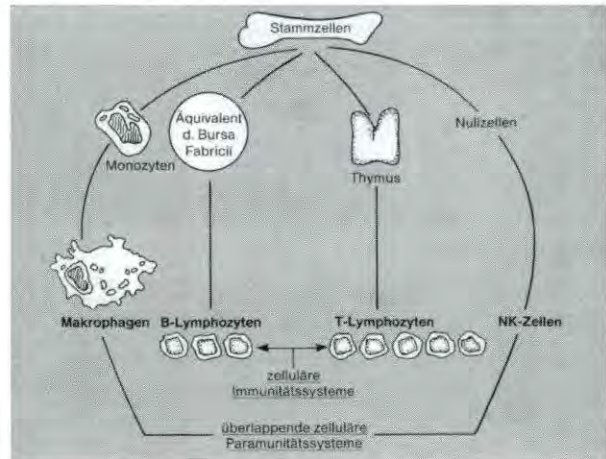
Demodectic mange mites. Red mange. Causes balding patches on the face and legs. Intense irritation provokes frantic scratching, which further damages the skin. When demodectic mange mites attack, a counterattack should be launched immediately.

Sarcoptic mange mites. White mange. The mites are said to be the same as cause scabies in humans. Patches of coat fall out, most likely along the flanks. In all three cases of mange mites it would be best to let someone with MRCVS after their name have a look and prescribe treatment. There are a great many treatments for mange, many of which have become obsolete. Twice a year washing with Alugan or Tixol should keep your dog free of ecto parasites. Tixol is based on organo phosphates and when using it the operator should mask the face and wear rubber gloves. Stand the dog in a tray and

using a sponge thoroughly dampen the hair and skin all over. When the hair is wet on the outside draw the wet sponge slowly against the grain, to let the dressing penetrate a thick coat right down to the roots.

TICKS

They are bloodsucking insects. They attach themselves to mammals, including humans, while very tiny and then proceed to gorge themselves with the



Source and development of Immune Cells.

blood of their host. Dogs are likely to pick them up running through tall vegetation. There are many tricks for breaking their holds, other than pulling them off. That way the head is left deeply embedded in the skin. An oily substance painted on them suffocates them and they fall off.

RINGWORM

This problem came in with calves we bought and quickly spread to the dogs. It usually appears where the hair is shortest, on the face and legs. The fungus causes round slightly raised, coin sized bare patches. It responded well to a preparation of 50 % iodine and 50 % glycerine. Ringworm can readily transfer to humans, so do be careful.

21 IMMUNE SYSTEM



LYMPHATIC SYSTEM

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Ear lymph node | 4. Armpit lymph node |
| 2. Lower jaw lymph node | 5. Groin lymph node |
| 3. Neck lymph node. | 6. Kneehole lymph node. |

The lymphatic system is an extensive network of capillary vessels which convey lymph, an almost colourless interstitial body fluid containing mainly white blood cells, to the venous blood circulating system. The sluggishly moving fluid is filtered through strategically positioned lymph nodes. When disease causing pathogens make their way into the system they are trapped by the filters and reaction occurs, which causes noticeable swelling of the affected lymph node as it steps up the production of lymphocytes to combat the invading pathogens. The lymphatic system is a vital part of the immune system which forms the body's defence mechanism against disease. The illustration shows the locations of but just a few lymph nodes that lie close to the exterior.

Disease is any impairment of the normal physiological functioning of an organism. It features under many headings having a host of causes, which may be bacterial or viral infection, nutritional deficiency, parasitic infestation, allergies, defective genes, etc., etc., or, as happens more often than not, a combination of some of those causes. The list appears infinite. With so many diseases around

causing illness and death it is wonderful how a healthy life can be maintained. A moment's reflection will show there must be something there which protects each individual, of every species, from the risks to health encountered on a hourly basis. This invisible shield must be provided at birth, or acquired soon after, to ensure a long and relatively disease free life.

The immune system is the name of this invisible shield which protects most living creatures. When we come to study how an immune system works we find a remarkable similarity between its functioning and that of a sovereign state. An analogy can be found for just about every activity. The brain making decisions is the government. The nervous system passing signals and carrying back reports, is Telecom. Blood circulation replaces road, rail and canal infrastructure for transporting and distributing food, fuel, building materials and transporting waste products away. Road and rail traffic is replicated by fleets of erythrocytes, red bulk tankers hauling oxygen and carbon gases around, to and from the lungs. Bacteria and enzymes are the farmers producing food along the fertile digestive tract. Chemical plants, in the liver, food processing, catering, construction, filtration, all have a miniature replica or counterpart in the immune system of every individual.

No state is likely to endure for long without security forces. A police force for internal law and

order and an army for defence against hostile attack from outside. To perform efficiently these forces require intelligence and security departments, border checkpoints, passports, interrogation centres for illegal immigrants. The defence forces would be ineffective without armaments, so there have to be munitions factories to produce them. Each and every one of those services, upon which the sovereign state depends so heavily for security, has a counterpart in the immune system.

Each of the 100,000,000,000,000 citizen cells, in a body, has an ID which is recognised throughout that body by all the other citizen cells. Occasionally a cell revolts becoming an anarchist. The disorder caused becomes carcinomas, which may bring about the destruction of the body state, from within. Most assaults are from the outside and must be repelled promptly, to avoid lengthy illness, or death. Invaders are inhaled with every breath, ingested with food and water, exchanged in sexual intercourse and every other contact, they penetrate the dermis through cuts, scrapes, stings, bites, etc., etc.

The immune system has assorted weaponry for this task. Some of which are still top secret and scientists and doctors don't know yet exactly how they work. Disease causing invaders are called pathogens or antigens and antibodies are the weapons the immune system throws at them. Munitions factories, which produce the antibodies, are located in leg bone marrow, lymphatic glands, the spleen and liver.

Different pathogens require different antibodies, like interferon, lysine, opsonin. Leukocytes are little white panda cars weaving among the erythrocyte juggernauts, mopping up '5th column' infiltrators in the blood. Phagocytes envelope intruders in bear hugs and devour them. Others are picked up, like cars on a car transporter and carried around until biodegraded. When an antibody gets to grips with a pathogen, it is equivalent to being arrested and handcuffed and the pathogen is no longer capable of causing trouble.

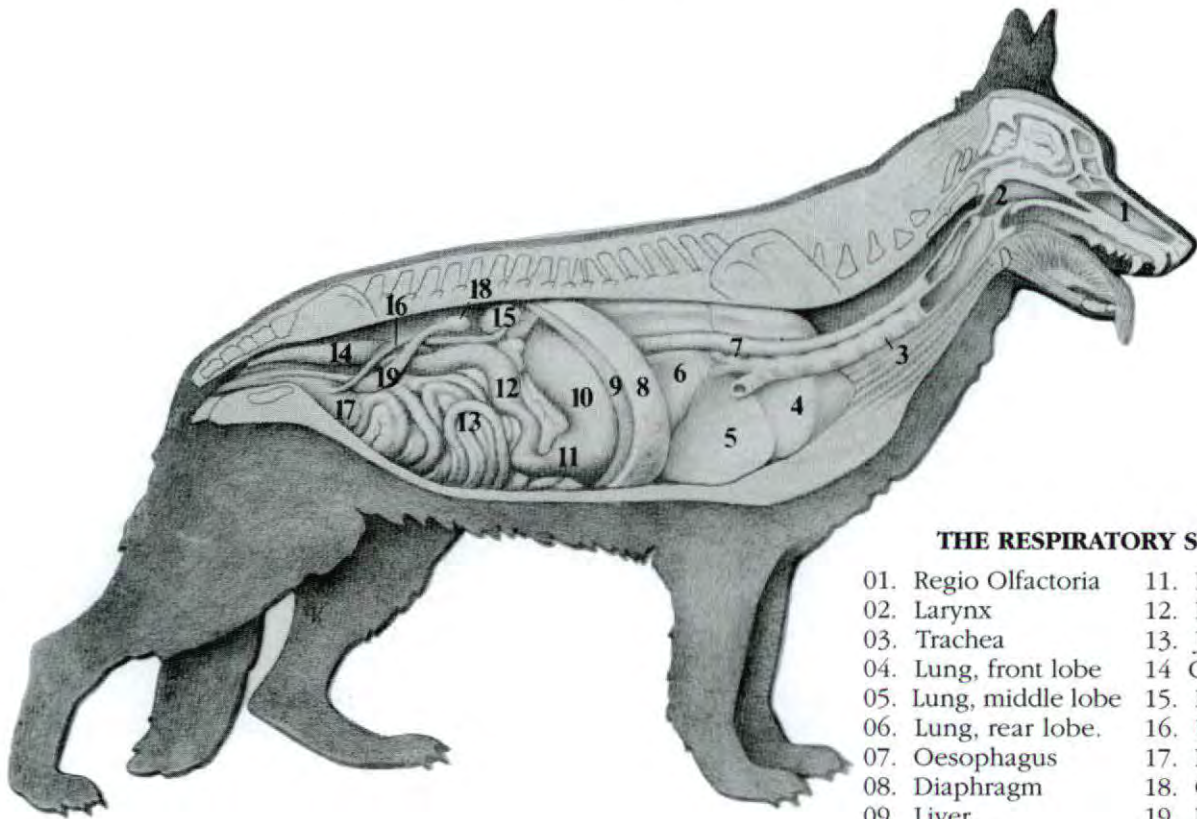
The lymphatic system plays a major part in the immune system, supplying information from lymph node road blocks, positioned strategically around the body, where suspects, with wrong I.D.s, are arrested and 'fingerprinted'. Production of lymphocytes is stepped up when these little guerriers are trapped and the gland swells to painful proportions. When the invader is an old enemy the weaponry is there to deal with it and more often than not an attack is repulsed without the individual being conscious of it.

Time is vital. A bacterium is a single cell organism which multiplies by binary fission, that is by splitting in halves. In a suitable environment this happens every 20 minutes. A single bacterium is capable of growing to 16 million bacteria in just 24 hours.

When a new variant pathogen is encountered, which happens occasionally, whether, or not, from outer space, as Prof. Fred Hoyle would have us believe, which doesn't match anything on the files of memory cells, forming the 'Intelligence Department', it can spell big trouble as the available antibody ammunition is unlikely to make the slightest impact. Citizen cells are killed in millions by the attackers, which quickly produces clinical symptoms of a disease. Meantime the immune system is struggling desperately, with the odds against it. Invaders have to be trapped and antibodies modified, or new ones devised, that are specific for them. Then the factories have to be retooled for production. All of which takes time and the new antibodies, specific for that pathogen, may not come on stream in time to prevent serious illness.

Here is where vaccines are so important. The idea of conferring immunity has been around for a long time. Three centuries ago the Ottoman Turks were using variolation against the deadly smallpox. Early in the 18th century this knowledge spread to Western Europe. Around 1770 the Dutch physician, Jan Ingenhousz, successfully used the live virus method in London. Tissue from a person who had experienced a mild attack of smallpox was inoculated into others. The procedure could prove fatal. In an epidemic, which swept through Gloucestershire in 1788, physician Edward Jenner noted that milk maids, who had contracted the much milder cowpox through their occupation, were immune to smallpox. Experimentation followed, which proved successful and Jenner went on to claim credit for 'vaccination', a word he coined himself.

Modified disease antigens, in a non virulent state, are introduced to arouse the immune system, to respond by producing antibodies specific for that antigen. It is long and well established that inoculation with modified viral and bacterial antigens stimulates the immune system to produce antibodies that are specific for the inoculating antigens and, furthermore, information on those antigens is stored in special 'memory cells' for years. Some vaccines are 'inactivated', simply dead, others are 'attenuated live', cultured to reduced virulence on a suitable



THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| 01. Regio Olfactoria | 11. Pylorus |
| 02. Larynx | 12. Duodenum |
| 03. Trachea | 13. Jejunum |
| 04. Lung, front lobe | 14. Colon |
| 05. Lung, middle lobe | 15. Kidney. |
| 06. Lung, rear lobe. | 16. Urethra. |
| 07. Oesophagus | 17. Bladder. |
| 08. Diaphragm | 18. Ovary. |
| 09. Liver | 19. Uterus. |
| 10. Stomach | |

medium, like egg, to a point where they will provoke a strong reaction, but can not cause the actual disease. Where both forms are available, as in parvo vaccines, it is down to personal choice as both give excellent protection results.

Several of the commonest and most deadly infectious diseases affecting dogs can be prevented by inoculation. There are very effective vaccines which engender reactions which give just about 100 % immunity and you can't go higher than 100 per cent. The greatest care the owner of a puppy can give it, is to have the dog properly inoculated with vaccines against the 'big 4' diseases viz. distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis and parvovirus, at the earliest opportunity, which is at 14 weeks, when the MDAs derived from the mother have dwindled to a level which will not block the vaccine.

The issue of a licence to own a dog should be made conditional on certification that the dog was inoculated, at least once in its lifetime, against those four diseases, in the same way as a certificate of insurance is required when road taxing a motor vehicle.

By introducing legislation to legalise this proposal our legislators would be doing something constructive for the welfare of the canine population.

The respiratory passages provide a major inva-

sion route for many viral and bacterial antigens to reach vital interior regions of the body.

The functions of the respiratory system are, to provide the body with oxygen from the atmosphere and eliminate, from the blood, gasses resulting from energy consumption in muscular activity. Especially in dogs, the system has an important role in regulating body temperature. Normally the dog breathes through the nose. As the air is inhaled it is moistened and preheated. Moistening the air, from glands in the nostrils, enhances airborne scents and smells. The air passes through the underpass, at the epiglottis, into the trachea and on into the bronchi, or bronchial tubes, which sub-divide down to the finest tubules of the various lobes of the lungs, where a vital life giving exchange takes place. At times a dog will breathe through the mouth. When overheated, panting gives a measure of relief. Canines evolved in very cold climates, as a result dogs have very few sweat gland sites. Sweat glands in the mouth secrete moisture and evaporation carries away heat, which explains why the dog pants.

Bear in mind, when housing or transporting a dog, a lower temperature is more agreeable to the dog and, weight for weight, your dog's requirement of oxygen is a good deal greater than your own.

22 DISEASES

AUJESZKYSCHÉ DISEASE. Or pseudo rabies. (Less of a tongue twister).

This strange sounding disease owes its name to the Hungarian veterinary surgeon and scientist, who diagnosed the disease and accurately described the symptoms, in 1902.

On the Continent of Europe the disease is encountered mainly on pig farms, where it appeared to be increasing in virulence in recent years. **It does not** affect humans.

The disease is caused by a virus of the herpes group and enters via the digestive tract. Incubation is from 3 to 8 days, but usually is 4 days.

Symptoms start with loss of appetite, restlessness, fever and unsteady gait. Salivation, to a greater or lesser extent. Rapidly worsening condition leads to vomiting, choking and stertorous breathing through opened mouth. The animal groans and the gait becomes uncontrollable and it persistently scratches a particular spot on its head, the reason for which remains unknown. The expression drastically alters, the ears are let flop, the eyes half closed, with unequal pupils. There is a loss of character. While seldom aggressive, interference may provoke an attack on the owner. Cramps bring death dramatically, usually on the third day. There is no cure, hope lies in a vaccine.

Prevention. The tinniest scrap of raw meat can harbour the virus and given to a cat or dog cause the death of that animal. For two very grave reasons **raw** pig meat should **never** be fed to cats and dogs, they are the double AA's, for Aujeszky's disease and ascarid worm larvae. Cross contamination is a possibility, where meat from different species is handled, bringing the sad day nearer when no meat will be safe for dogs, until cooked. No joy, for someone like me, who believes in the goodness of raw meat for dogs.

Aujeszky's disease has been rampant among pigs in Belgium, Denmark, Germany and Holland. Bonhams (piglets) sicken and die, while older animals recover from less severe attacks, but continue to harbour the virus. Under the liberalisation of trade forced on us by EC regulations, allowing the importation of pig meat, which we could very well do without, because we produce a surplus of it, it is now only a matter of time until we have another disease in Ireland, the one with the Hungarian vet-

erinary surgeon's name. Footnote. Since that piece was written a vaccine has become available.

BRUCELLOSIS

Caused by the brucella bacterium, discovered by Dr. Bruce who bestowed his name on the disease. Affects many mammalian species, including man. A very serious occupational hazard among veterinary surgeons, farmers and meat plant operatives. Many vets have been affected by it and it has caused the deaths of a couple of very fine veterinary surgeons of my own acquaintance.

Infected bitches miscarry, or give birth prematurely to infected puppies who rarely survive. The disease has attracted strong public attention because of the manner in which humans are struck down in a very debilitating condition. A bovine eradication programme has vastly improved the situation. Prior to that virtually all vets and many farmers working with cows were affected by 'Bruce'.

Ireland has attained brucellosis free status and combined with pasteurisation of milk there is little likelihood of contamination. Still a virus, or bacterium, may be knocked down, but is seldom out, for good. It would be wise to exclude dogs, especially bitches, from calving areas. On no account let them consume 'slipped' calves and that includes placentae, which are sometimes carelessly disposed of, where dogs can reach them.

DISTEMPER and paradistemper, or hard pad

In the good, or should that be the bad, old days, distemper and hard pad were the bane of dog breeders and owners. Although still widespread in the canine population, unfortunate enough to be in careless ownership, these diseases scarcely cause the serious owner a thought nowadays, through marvellously effective vaccination.

Distemper is caused by the Gattung Morbili virus, a member of the paramyxovirus family, which links it to measles in humans. The virus is inhaled in airborne droplets, or snuffled up and swallowed, entering the body through the mucous membrane lining the respiratory and alimentary tracts. Incubation takes from three to seven days.

The first symptoms are loss of appetite, debility and fever. That is followed by an illness that may last a week, or several months, depending on

which course the disease takes and there are several of them. The disease can run concurrently, or consecutively, in any combination of the following;

1. Attacking the respiratory tract, causing nasal discharge, rash, inflammation of the nostrils, larynx, trachea and lungs
2. Attack the digestive tract, causing vomiting and diarrhoea, followed by weakness from dehydration from loss of fluids.
3. Attack the nervous system, causing impaired co-ordination of the limbs, cramps, disturbed sleep and loss of self-confidence. Recurring cramps may be long-term affects.
4. Attack the eyes, the lids and surrounding areas becoming inflamed and producing a slimy discharge which leads to outbreaks of the skin and to encrustations.
5. Cause pustule formations on the nose, underbelly and paw pads.
6. Affect the teeth. Interfere with the calcification process, especially in young dogs, causing permanent discoloration of dentine tooth enamel.

All discharges and secretions from an affected dog contain the live virus, so where ever a sick dog goes it brings trouble for other dogs. Infection is transmitted by licking and inhaling airborne droplets, the most likely source of infection being the local street corner, while cocking a leg or perusing the 'Doggy Daily' published there.

Depending on the extent of secondary infections, which always crowd in when the defences are low, and the quality of the care and attention, the survival rate will vary from 20 to 70 per cent, but most of the survivors bear scars for life. The conclusion to be drawn is that it would be much better to prevent this disease than try to cure it. Local epidemics still occur where owners, through ignorance, carelessness or stinginess, fail to protect their dogs. Modified live virus vaccines are available and when inoculated at fourteen weeks give a very high rate of protection. Puppy owners, faced with an epidemic, should consult their vet about early inoculation. Do not take your very young puppy into a veterinary clinic. Healthy children are not allowed into fever hospitals. Ask the vet to call to your premises, or come outside to your car, to reduce the chances of infection.

With an effective vaccine against this dreadful disease readily available it is nothing less than criminal not to use it. No excuse should be accepted for

not protecting the young dog. Where appeals to reason fall on deaf ears there should be legislation to compel the laggards to vaccinate against the most deadly viruses and bacteria.

HEPATITIS, canine viral. Rubart's disease.

The adeno virus causes this disease in dogs. The virus enters the digestive tract orally. The incubation period is from 2 to 5 days.

Symptoms are ; fever, excessive thirst, loss of appetite, apathy, dull eyes, diarrhoea and above all these, inflammation and enlargement of the liver and gall bladder causing acute pain in the region of the abdomen..

In an overwhelming number of cases death is the outcome.

Some dogs who recover become 'carriers' continually shedding live virus with urine and faeces, unwittingly spreading the virus among their friends.

The virus is unrelated to the virus which caused the scandal of the Blood Transfusion Bank debacle and appears to pose no threat to humans, at least for the present, but one should never fool around with a virus.

Fortunately there is a very effective canine hepatitis inactivated vaccine available, so get it into your little beauty, before the wild virus gets there first.

HERPES.

The cause is the herpes virus.

Only puppies under three weeks old are affected. When the virus is present in the atmosphere the puppy inhales it as he breathes. The virus enters through the mucous membrane of the upper nasal cavity, then it is carried in the blood to the liver, kidneys and lungs. When these organs are attacked haemorrhaging occurs. Affected puppies wail miserably, lose their normal reactions and die, in a matter of hours, or in a day or two.

There is no specific treatment and all authorities are agreed that survivors suffer severe damage to the kidneys. The only precaution against a herpes attack appears to be to keep the whelping box warm and as comfortable as possible during those initial three weeks when the puppy's internal 'thermostat', or body temperature regulator, is not fully operative and can cope with no more than a drop of 4 or 5 C. in the atmospheric temperature. Herpes virus enters when the body temperature drops another 5 C. So a drop of 10 degrees C. puts the puppy into the danger zone.

KENNEL COUGH.

Kennel cough usually occurs only when dogs are brought together, e.g., at shows, boarding kennels, dog pounds, etc. Dogs in the household are unlikely to be affected. With veterinary assistance a cure can be expected in a week or two

A wiser course of action would be to vaccinate, if your dog is likely to frequent any of those establishments just referred to.

LEPTOSPIROSIS

Leptospirosis is caused by a spiral bacterium, as the name would suggest. It is akin to the pathogen causing syphilis in humans. There are two variants, both deadly twins;

Leptospira canicola causes nephritis by attacking the kidneys. while *leptospira icterohaemorrhagica* causes hepatitis of the liver.

The disease is well known on the Continent, as the Stuttgart dog plague, because of a disastrous outbreak, following a dog show in that city in southern Germany, during the 19th century. Rats are regarded as prime carriers, spreading infected urine in water, on food and feeding bowls. The obvious entry route is orally, but the bacterium can get through the skin.

Symptoms start with loss of appetite and vomiting, in both forms, progressing to symptoms that are more specific to the organ undergoing assault.

Mortality rates are very high. Truly a case of prevention being better than hoping for a cure. Recovered dogs become 'carriers', for up to 18 months, spreading the disease. Inoculation at fourteen weeks with the correct vaccine prevents leptospirosis.

RABIES

The oldest known disease, recorded over 4,300 years ago and without question the most dreaded canine disease. It is still rampant in many countries around the world and daily people die in the greatest agony. The cause is the rhabdo virus, which attacks the nervous system. The last outbreak in Ireland was in 1903. My father recounted how a mad dog came through the district where he grew up and fought with every dog it met. Eventually every dog involved went mad and had to be put down, as were a couple of pigs that were also bitten and went mad.

Almost invariably the entry route, of the virus into the bloodstream, is through a deep cut, or puncture, from a bite. Saliva from the affected ani-

mal carries the virus into the blood of the victim. The incubation period is lengthy, anywhere from two weeks to two months and even longer. A dreadful period of anxiety, following a bite.

Clinical symptoms are triggered when the virus reaches the brain. The initial stage symptoms, which may last for three days, are ; shyness and a change of character, fear and fleeing without cause, drooling from the mouth. The final stage symptoms are; jaws, larynx, limbs and body muscles become paralysed. Death occurs in three to four days.

Louis Pasteur won international fame when he successfully inoculated Joseph Meister, Alsace, on the 06/07/1885, two days **after** he had been bitten by a mad dog.

There is an anti rabies vaccine available and it works. In countries where rabies is endemic dogs are vaccinated regularly every 12 months.

Quarantining animals, for six calendar months in Britain and Ireland, thirteen months in Australia and fifteen months in New Zealand, has kept the virus out of those countries, at a time when vaccines were not readily available. There is a strong case for reviewing this procedure in respect of dogs obtained from the SV, Germany.

That statement is made, in the full awareness of the horror of rabies. When we visit places like Africa we rely on vaccines against other deadly diseases, so why is rabies vaccine not trusted ?. There is no greater risk in importing properly vaccinated dogs, which have never been in contact with the virus, than there is by pushing them into a quarantine kennel for half a year. Norway and Sweden discontinued their four months quarantine in 1994, in favour of vaccination. In 2000 changes are happening to quarantine regulations, in Britain, and bound to follow in Ireland.

SKIN DISEASES

These are the greatest single cause for visits to the veterinary clinic. There is wide variation, from breed to breed and indeed from animal to animal, in the degree of susceptibility to any given skin disorder. The number of causative, or predisposing factors, is endless. Fortunately, some conditions are so rare that a veterinary surgeon may rarely encounter them. The German Shepherd Dog may be affected by the following ;

The ravages of ecto parasites, fleas, lice, ticks, ear mites, mange and ringworm.

Diet deficiency syndromes, allergies to substances and food allergies.

Environmental hazards. Contact with all manner of substances, sprays, fabrics. etc.

Auto immune destruction of cells. Fortunately problems caused by the immune system producing enzymes, which destroy cutaneous cells causing skin ulcers, is very rare in the GSD breed.

Some of the clinical conditions arising from diseases of the skin are ;

Otitis externa Ear canker. Cause, fungus or ear mites. Use Oridermyl.

Pyoderma Pussy skin.

Seborrhoeic dermatitis Sebaceous skin disease, due to excessive secretion of sebum into the hair follicles.

Perianal furunculosis Ulcers encircling the anus.

Vascular skin tumours Tube like ulcers of the skin.

A majority of cases will require veterinary attention, while some will fall within the competency of the owner, to trace the cause and by removing it effect a cure. If the cause is a substance, e.g., fuel oil, carpet shampoo, etc., the dog and that substance must be kept apart. Remember it is a mere hundred years since the GSD came in from the cold of the coun-

tryside and hasn't yet built up resistance to many things around the modern home.

The first fundamental requirement for a healthy exterior is a healthy interior, which is maintained by what is put inside the dog, in the form of a nutritious well balanced diet. Deprived of adequate nutrition the body is unable to furnish a full and healthy coat of hair, which is the protection for the skin and the first defence against disease. Further to that the correct amount of fibre will maintain the right volume of faeces which prevents the anal glands filling and reduces the risk of ulcers in the anal region.

A good rule of thumb for skin problems is, if Alugan, or Tixol, fail to cure it, better let the vet look at it.

EPILEPSY

Epilepsy is a very rare condition among GSDs, but it has occurred. If and when it happens the affected individual most certainly must not be bred from.

FITS

In my youth dogs frequently took fits, barking wildly and running aimlessly around. The excitement ended by running into some bushes, or a building, where the dog stood trembling, disorientated and fearful. We now believe it was the result of white bread causing a dietary imbalance. Better nutrition should prevent that recurring.

23 PARVOVIROSIS

The advent of the parvo virus caused as much shock and alarm in the canine world, as did AIDS among humans. Nothing remotely like it had happened since a disastrous outbreak of hepatitis in Stuttgart. In the pre parvo era, dogs and their owners never had it so good. Inoculations had conquered and prevented the old terrors of distemper, hard pad and hepatitis and antibiotics could effect marvellous cures for most of the other complaints, inspiring great confidence in the veterinary profession. But the song goes "nothing that good lasts for ever".

The canine parvo virus struck, in the United States, out of a clear blue sky in the Summer of 1978. In just a few weeks it had crossed the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans, to Australia and France where, like Jacques Brel, it was alive and well and living in Paris.

That demonstrated two facts, 1 ; the parvo virus was extremely virulent and highly contagious and 2; the vulnerability of all species who are sharing this planet, through the close genetic linkage of all life forms having a common origin, to the risks poses by the transmogrification of deadly viruses, enabling them to jump the inter species barriers, which act like fire breaks, to halt the spread of most diseases.

Where did the parvo virus come from?. Professor Fred Hoyle, of England, has spent many years trying to prove we are receiving new diseases from outer space, arriving 'Special D' on the backs of meteorites. Now they might survive the intense cold out there, but what do they do to avoid incineration, when their mode of conveyance heats up, on entering earth's atmosphere?. Jump off and make soft landings by little parachutes?. Not very likely. Certainly not from outer space. There is no need for them to travel so far.

Ever since life began on this planet, old mother nature has had a horde of little nasties gambolling in her back yard. All that it takes, is for one of them to roll over and come up with a different leer on its face, which the antibody security guards, failing to recognise, let slip through and escape. Feline parvo virus did just that before. It mutated onto mink, becoming the cause of mink virus enteritis, which devastated mink ranches in America, during the 50's, until a vaccine was produced. It spread to

every mink producing district in the world. When a virus jumps the species barrier like that, it rages out of control, just like a forest fire, because the immune systems of the new host species lack the specific weaponry, antibodies, to be precise, for defence. Eventually the new host species under attack builds immunity, which holds the virus in check, or the virus becomes attenuated losing some of its virulence. Otherwise that species would become extinct. The onset of the Human Immune Virus was a classic example. During the first years, the young sexually active population of parts of Central Africa was completely obliterated. Had that rate of contagion and mortality continued until now, the human race would be well on the way to extinction, were it not for mounting natural resistance building immunity and/or the virus losing some of its virulence.

Canine parvo virus is just another variation on the feline parvo virus theme. Of that I am convinced. Ah yes. Poor Fido gets many of his problems from T. Puss Esquire.

Parvovirus is caused by the canine parvo virus 2. Parvo = small and it really is, for a million could fit on a coin. The wild virus is picked up orally with food and water, or most likely just by licking. Incubation takes from four to ten days. Usually five or six days.

Symptoms. They vary extremely widely among siblings, no less than from litter to litter, from the mildest to the most severe. Loss of appetite may be the first symptom noticed, the puppy may run to the food dish with the others, but turns away without eating. A raised temperature to 102 - 104 F. About 101 F. is normal for puppies. Dogs are 3 degrees warmer than humans. The thermometer is inserted in the rectum for one minute. Symptoms progress through dejection, withdrawal into a corner, to persistent vomiting and insatiable thirst. Then, after 6 to 12 hours, to the characteristic diarrhoea, which is diagnostic for the disease. Opaquely brown, squirting out in a jet, as if from a syringe, to spread thinly on the floor. The discharge may be tinged with blood and have flecks of mucous membrane from the small intestine, but it will certainly have a distinctive odour, which is unforgettable. From then on dehydration accelerates, with a rapid loss of fluids from both ends.

When the patient stops drinking, develops pneumonia, diarrhoea becomes bloody, due to haemorrhaging through heavily damaged lining of the digestive tract, or the rectum prolapses, all invariably prove fatal. A heavy worm burden, which alone can prove fatal, leaves a puppy with no chance at all. By the second day the patient will have become wet and messy all over, making it very difficult to keep dry and warm. Up to six or seven days can pass before signs of recovery.

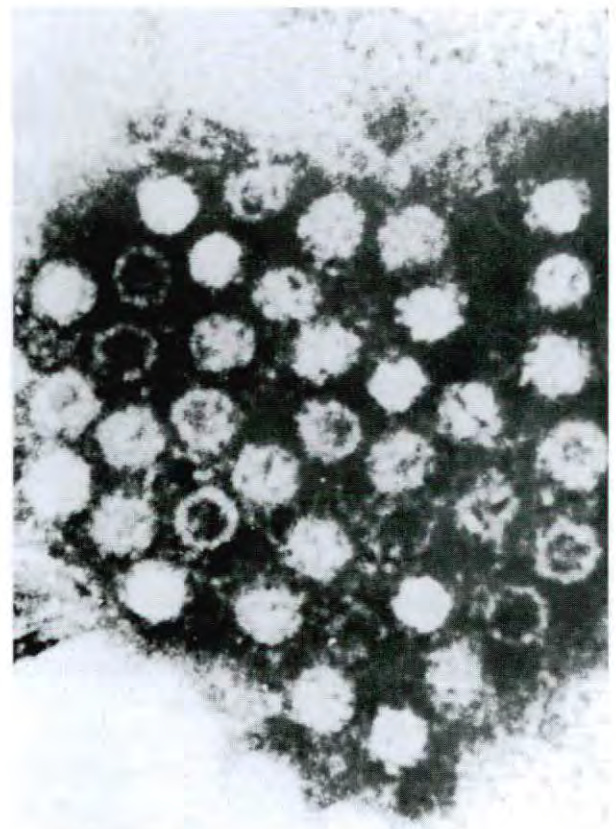
The parvo virus has an immunosuppressive effect, which allows other antigens to crowd in for a 'field day' and cause other diseases, like pneumonia. Some puppies shrug off an attack with just a raised temperature and scarcely skip a meal, while others steadily go down hill, despite best care and attention and more often than not that one was the pick of the litter. The mortality rate in a litter can range from 0 right up to 100 per cent. One good thing emerges from an attack, dogs who encounter the virus and recover **have life immunity** and need **no** further inoculations of parvo vaccines.

When the disease first struck, three and four week old puppies were seen to keel over and die from heart attacks, because their dams had no antibodies specific for the virus to impart to them. During the first three to four weeks of a dog's life the heart is the most rapidly growing part of him and the parvo virus targets the heart. Survivors from this stage were found to have suffered massive damage to and gross enlargement of the heart, resulting from the organ trying to overcome scar tissue, by new growth, which could cause a coronary attack, sooner rather than later. Breeders of Greyhounds found this to be a particular problem, because of the stress placed on the heart by racing. Survivors of parvovirus among litters of Greyhounds were found to be a dead loss, quite literally.

When puppies go onto solid food there is a rapid expansion of the digestive tract to accommodate and process the food. Biological growth is accomplished by mitosis, cells dividing and the halves swelling to full cells. Unlike a bacterium, which is self replicating, in suitable environments, a parvo virus has to get into a living cell and what better time to do so than when cells are dividing in mitosis. Each cell a virus enters is hijacked and compelled to produce more virus, in effect like a cancer cell turning against other cells. A virus has very limited genetic material, but using the growing power of the cell, it rapidly replicates until the cell ruptures under the strain.

Then the virus, hugely increased in numbers, goes on to invade other cells until there is an area of diseased cells which gives rise to clinical symptoms, bringing the incubation period to an end and the disease out into the open.

Excrescences line the jejunum, like rows of traffic bollards to enlarge the surface in contact with the chyme passing through and increase osmosis. They grow from the base out and that's the point that the virus attacks and chops them off, like those giant tree harvesting machines do. The jejunum is left as scarred as a freshly logged woodland. It is obvious solid food is the last thing a sick puppy wants just then. Nourishment must come in liquids, or through intravenous drip line. Getting the recovering puppy back on food has to be done very carefully and skilfully, to avoid further complications.



Parvo virus under the electron microscope

There is one particular method of re-hydrating the puppy, that is by injecting a large syringe full of electrolytes subcutaneously, which should be banned under penalty of a lengthy gaol sentence. The stuff is astringent and causes intense agony.

The rapidity with which the new virus crossed two oceans and the ease of entry into Australia,

with their very strict quarantine regulations, was alarming. There they greet you by fumigating the aircraft, while you sit gasping in your seat. They stop just short of dunking you in a bath of disinfectant, which might not suffice either, because the parvo virus is so tough it can resist most disinfectants and remain dormant without a host for over a year. No denying it, parvo virus is an extremely tough and durable organism.

The rapid spread of the virus world-wide was made possible by air travel and dog shows. Shows have become international events, with judges and spectators travelling between the continents. Then bear in mind that the tiniest fleck of dog faeces, carried on a shoe, to come in contact with a dog, on returning home, is more than enough, to cause an epidemic on the other side of the globe.

There was panic in Paris among dog owners, when the virus struck there, early in 1979. Rumours were flying and reports coming in of dogs dying in dozens. The reports, judged from personal experience, were most certainly grossly exaggerated, for I have yet to see an adult dog very sick with parvovirus, much less die from it. Parvovirus is a puppyhood illness and as such is very, very lethal.

Worried Parisians paid the equivalent of £100 a dose for vaccine, which was no more efficacious, against the virus, than giving the dogs ice pops. Rogues and charlatans abound and they seize on every opportunity to profit from other people's fears.

The race was now on, for a vaccine specific for the canine parvo virus. Demand for it was demonstrably there, guaranteeing profits for the winner. Meanwhile charlatans continued offering vaccines, at exorbitant prices, which were no more than placebos to soothe the nerves of distraught owners. The vaccine for feline parvo virus was offered amid claims that it "conferred a degree of protection". With the parvo virus degrees did not count, it was **all** or nothing. A vaccine was cultured from a Snow Leopard, which died from enteritis in Bristol Zoo, but the vaccine from the big Snow Leopard didn't scare the teeny weenie parvo virus one bit.

Vaccines for new diseases can't be pulled out of a hat. Sometime they require a lot of development. In some outbreaks, of low contagious disease among large colonies, it is possible to culture a vaccine, from the early victims and administer it to the remainder and thereby bring the outbreak under control. That did not work with the canine parvo virus, which we shall refer to as CPV, because it is

too highly contagious and all the members of the colony would be incubating the virus. When veterinary surgeons inoculated puppies, in the face of an outbreak, they killed off most of the puppies, sure as shooting them.

The CPV proved to be an artful dodger and the search proved protracted, but eventually it was trapped and the breakthrough came, with homologous vaccines, that is for dogs from dog tissue, in both inactivated (dead) and attenuated live virus (the virus cultured to a non virulent stage). Both give on 100 % protection, which is the best any vaccine can give, provided the dog has not already encountered the wild virus.

At last, a fairy tale ending, to the nightmare?. Not quite. There was an Achilles heel and the CPV found it, continuing to wreak havoc among litters and singles for weeks after they had gone to new homes. There were bitter complaints of deaths **after** inoculation, blaming the vaccine, because it "did not hold". The vaccines were not at fault. What was at fault, was the failure of the veterinary profession to fully appreciate the nature of the virus. They continued inoculating puppies, who had come in contact with CPV and were harbouring, but not yet incubating the virus.

In 1980 I regarded Lasso di Val Sole SHSB 1378829 SchH 2 VA, the Swiss born son of Quanto von der Wienerau, as the epitome of the breed and leased Trixi vom Bubenlachring SchH 1. V. to breed a litter in quarantine by him. I tipped him to be Sieger on the way to Bremen that year. Lasso was there, but not exhibited. His son was Sieger and four more sons and daughters were VA. That was 20% of the 25 dogs made VA.

I was short changed and Trixi was mated to Zar di Val Sole V, a younger full brother, but **not** Lasso, but that's irrelevant. Trixi whelped 3-4 live pups in Folkestone on Christmas eve, but -2 died. When they were nine weeks old they were released from quarantine. They had been well cared for and looked impressive, well there was a bitch looked rather plain and proved to be a long coat. Anyway I had plenty of good bitches and what I really needed was a good male for stud work and these three fellows looked super. This was the L litter which was going to put Castlewarden on the map, they were Les Troyen, Largetto, Luxus, Ludmilla and Leonore, the long coat.

They arrived on 26-02-1981. Ten days later, on Sunday 8th March, Ludmilla vomited and the following day she brought up a quantity of hay, to

which the vomiting was attributed. The mystery was why had she swallowed hay. Later on the 9th Largetto was unwell and his brother, Luxus, had little interest in food that evening. All three had temperatures ranging from 102.4 to 103.2. We regarded 101 F as normal for puppies. On the 10th Luxus was eating again, but the other two were much worse. We overcame our reluctance to expose them to infection and took the two very sick puppies to the Veterinary College. We enquired if it could be the dreaded CPV and were assured by the professor of veterinary medicine that whatever it was it definitely was not the parvo virus. We took the pair home and continued treatment for enteritis.

On the 11th Ludmilla died and Largetto looked like he would soon follow her. In desperation he was taken to another veterinary surgeon. We were subjected to a high powered lecture on the parvo virus, the use of blood cell expanders and the benefits of intravenous drip therapy. We were assured administration of electrolytes, together with antibiotics would effect a cure. Most of which was sheer bunkum, which took years of bitter experience to disprove. He had recently practised in England and claimed to have vast experience successfully treating the malady and was the leading expert on parvovirus in Ireland. We counted ourselves fortunate having gone to him.

This vet insisted on inoculating the healthy trio. A thing that should **never** be done **after** an outbreak. In doing so veterinary surgeons were working hand in glove, with the wild virus, helping to kill off any protective MDAs the puppies had left. Vets pushed the mortality rate much higher than it would otherwise have been, **without** their intervention.

We left Largetto in the clinic, expecting his demise, for he was so far gone and rushed home, believing time was of the essence, in giving the others their 'jabs'. Now, in hindsight, how silly we were. On the 12th we had all our adult dogs inoculated with CPV vaccine. We could have saved ourselves the expense and bother. Their resistance to parvo virus was already higher than Everest. All day Largetto lay at death's door, until evening when he showed the first signs of recovery, which continued. He went on to make a full recovery and lived a full and fruitful life. Leonore, the worthless long coat, never showed the slightest sign of illness, not even skipped a meal.

Friday the 13th, well superstitious people will attach a lot of significance to that. On that evening Les went off food and vomited a little, otherwise he

was as perky as ever. Straightaway he was whisked off to join his brother, Lar, in the intensive care unit. Les was a most outstanding GSD. The best I have ever bred. The vet, who knew a lot about the breed, commented on his excellence. Largetto was continuing to improve so we returned home confident of the outcome. A telephone call early next morning shattered the complacency. Les, the pick of the litter by a mile, was dead. His death caused by veterinary intervention. Never, in my vast experience, has a puppy over 2 months old died from parvovirus, in so short a time. To insert drip lines puppies had to be anaesthetised. We were reliably informed by a veterinary aide that a great many of them never woke up. The trauma of separation, travelling and hearts already weakened by the stress of a severe illness, could take no more when subjected to anaesthetisation.

We were involved in an ongoing breeding program, with puppies always on the premises and for a considerable time, without realising it, had the most deadly dog disease and the veterinary profession had failed to recognise it. It can be said, without fear of contradiction, that where the parvo virus was concerned, the veterinary profession in Ireland spent a very long time at sea, lost in a fog, and clueless about getting ashore.

The State run veterinary pathology laboratory was a standing joke among farmers at the time, that casualties had to be delivered still kicking, so as not to offend the delicate nostrils of the pathologists there. Even at that the reports were likely to be inconclusive. We delivered casualties, in other species, on the day they died and invariably the reports stated, "Decomposition at an advanced stage precluded a diagnosis". Why could they not be honest and say they could not find the cause of death?

The story is incredible, we had the parvo virus on our premises for over a year and a quarter without recognising the fact. Poring over diaries and records, with knowledge gained much later, it was possible to pinpoint when, where and how we came in contact with the virus and brought it home. D (for disease) Day was as far back as November 1979. There was a dog show held at Harold's Cross Greyhound racetrack, which we attended and heard reports of the dreaded CPV having arrived in Dublin.

We had two litters, born earlier that month. On the 3rd Donna Mobile had 4-6 and her daughter, Manon Lescaut, had 5-6 on the 11th, both by our

new import, Bingo von Binges, son of Eros vom Hambachtal VA. Through the month of December it was a nightmare keeping Donna's brood alive, as one by one, they went off food for days. The weather was blamed. Christmas was the wrong time for rearing puppies. With a great deal of care and attention all ten in her litter pulled through and rapidly picked up, making good any lost growth.

Things went differently with Manon's lot, which of course were a week younger. They hadn't really gone onto solid food, entering their fourth week, when over a 3 or 4 day period, all five males just died off and were found dead. Nothing appeared to go wrong with the females. It would have to be the more valuable males. Had we but known it, the deaths of those males was classic first strike parvo, among very young puppies, when their dam had no antibodies to impart to them. What spared the females in that litter, remains a mystery I can not explain, other than a notion males appear more susceptible to the virus. Doubts were raised. Top of the list was a suspicion that their sire, Bingo, was transmitting a congenital weakness. Followed by the bad weather. In our ignorance, we were grasping at straws. We are rather isolated. No old dogs had died, none had even shown signs of illness. It couldn't be parvo. That suspicion was immediately rejected.

A litter born in January 1980 and another in March were all reared satisfactorily with no problems. Nutcracker was mated to Kay vom Surenheider See SchH 3 V., who lived in Belfast. She whelped 4-6 on the 6th of May. On the first of July some of the 10 stopped eating. On the third 2 were taken to the clinic of a vet, prominent in small animal care, where they were treated. That pair died and the other 8 recovered. Which did not inspire confidence in that particular veterinary surgeon. That estimation has since been reversed. He is among the best practising in Dublin. Both casualties were taken to the laboratory and the report came back negative, for the CPV.

There was a clear run for 3 months and then there was a problem, which was attributed, perhaps wrongly, to the food upsetting a litter. The majority recovered but two died. During the preceding twelve months it had become much harder to rear puppies. They required far more skill and attention, than formerly. This was attributed to a build up of low grade infection, which occurs in all concentrations of livestock. An experiment was conducted on puppies hand reared since soon after birth. On the

19th November Merry Widow had 5-2, which she failed to rear. She was affected by post natal toxæmia and her milk dried off before that was put right. Four males survived the first setback and were virtually reared by hand. Not the best start in life to give a puppy, it is not to be recommended and is unacceptable to the SV.

The 4 male puppies were regularly administered antibiotic tablets as prophylactic treatment, to suppress suspected low grade antigens, as was widely practised on pig farms at the time. They were 51 days old and not far behind for their age, when they went off food on 09/01/1981. On Sunday the 11th, I watched powerless, as all four died in just six hours, at regular two hourly intervals. The manner of their deaths was so spectacular that it demanded investigation. Once again two carcasses were taken for laboratory examination. With a very expensive litter in quarantine and due out in a couple of months we had to know if it were the dreaded parvo, for if those deaths were due to CPV, then Castlewarden was the wrong place to bring puppies, until well and truly vaccinated.

Once again we were reassured the deaths were not due to the CPV. A few ascarids (round worms) were found and blamed. The puppies had been wormed according to best veterinary advice at the time, which had to be revised subsequently. We listened to a 'hot Gospel', on the ravages of roundworms and from then on pregnant bitches, suckling bitches and their puppies, resting bitches and stud dogs were all wormed relentlessly.

Referring back to the four deaths. The antibiotics had suppressed the normal development of enzymes and antibodies, which develop in response to challenges by low grade mundane infections. No challenge = no need for defensive antibodies. Those boys had n't a ghost of a chance, when the parvo virus struck. Their immune systems were underdeveloped and production of antibodies virtually non-existent.

Some statistics for the sixteen months we had the disease without knowing it;

Litters affected	52 %	Not at all affected	48 %
Survival, overall	84 %	Mortality, overall	16 %

When 2 exceptional litters, Manon's, because she had no MDAs to impart and Merry's hand reared 4, were taken out of the equation, the mortality rate did not go above 10 per cent, a rate which would be around that experienced in rearing most other types of livestock under normal conditions. Our

experience shows, when the disease was let run its course and the patients got good home care, the mortality could be kept low. It was when you tried to fight it that the virus got nasty and fought back. The parvo virus is a real jujitsu fighter. It uses the strength of cells to destroy other cells. The harder you go at it the more you hurt yourself. At least that has been our experience.

In 1981 we had puppies and we had CPV, which had to be got rid of, somehow, for the sake of their health. Confidence in the veterinary profession had completely evaporated, so we fell back on our own resources to single-handedly overcome the pestilence. Pregnant bitches were vaccinated and revaccinated and topped up with Dupharmun on the rebound, to drop kick their antibody titres soaring over the moon. All that did, was to postpone incubation by a couple of weeks. Then the puppies came down sick around eight weeks old, just as they were about to leave for new homes, or worse still in a few cases, immediately after arriving there.

Antibody serum became available in Germany, which prolonged the immunity of puppies until they were much older. But it was prepared from dog tissue and on that account was not allowed into Ireland, because of our quaint quarantine laws. Quaint? When dogs, properly vaccinated against rabies, during the previous 12 months, on entering a country where there is no rabies, must be re-inoculated with rabies vaccine, on entering the quarantine kennel. Well that beats Banagher and Banagher beat the devil.

Aware that vaccines were 'blocked' by MDAs, we had a crazy notion to get the vaccine in, before the new-born puppy suckled and got the supply of MDAs, that stands for maternally derived antibodies, from his mama. Day or night the whelping bitch was attended and as each puppy was born it was inoculated with a fractional dose of parvo vaccine, before it was allowed suckle. That failed to show any improvement. We found out later puppies, when born, already have 10 % of their MDAs, received transplacentally and get the remainder in the first milk. Which explained why that experiment failed.

Cage rearing was tried next, to get them out of contact with the virus, which we knew by then was spread solely by contact. At age four weeks the puppies were lifted away from the mother and into new weld mesh cages, but they brought the virus with them and about three weeks later they were sick and the mortality rate was even higher.

Apart from the suffering of the puppies, which couldn't be measured, but was distressing to witness, financial losses had exceeded five figures and were still soaring so anything would be tried in desperation. Inoculation of the puppies was tried at various ages, to as low as 4 weeks, to no avail. The vaccine laboratories were advocating fortnightly inoculation, from 6 to 16 weeks. Which adds up to 6 doses. Well, they are in the business of making vaccines and selling them is where they make their profits, but that amount of vaccinations would cost more than the value of the puppy.

Then the Haemoagglutination Inhibition Test, HIT, was developed whereby samples of blood were individually drawn off the dam and each of her puppies and each sample separately labelled and sent off to Glasgow University, the only place doing it in Britain, where they were subjected to serological testing, to evaluate the titre of MDAs present. Then an optimum date for the inoculation of each puppy was given, as his MDAs fell low enough not to tangle with the vaccine. HIT should have had, **and** MISS, added. It was as unreliable as the weather forecast.

One little detail was constantly overlooked, by the high powered virologists and veterinarians. It was so obvious that they failed to see it. For any inoculation programme to succeed against the CPV, the puppies **must never** have been in contact with the wild virus. Not until we came to that conclusion was there any progress made.

Courtesy of a very good veterinary chemist friend, who is also a dog owner, albeit a different breed, a paper came my way. Of course he is a 'solid' man, with the same name as my mother's people. To him I'm eternally grateful. Although it was over a year since it was published I was lucky to get hold of it. It appeared in the Jan 1st 1982 issue of the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association under the heading, 'Maternally Derived Immunity to Canine Parvovirus Infection: Transfer, Decline, and Interference with Vaccination. The authors were, R.V.H. Pollock DVM., PhD and L.E. Carmichael MVD. PhD.. They deserved to be highly decorated. Anyone involved in dealing with the CPV should hunt up that paper. There were many revelations about the virus. Never before was, "Know thine enemy", so appropriate. The CPV survived temperatures to below 0. C and up to 70 C and resisted most disinfectants, with the exception of hypochlorite (bleach) and formalin. When challenged, either by vaccine or the real

thing, a bitch's immune system produces antibodies which lock onto the pathogens immobilising them. When she is pregnant she imparts antibodies to her children, the first moiety of 10 per cent trans-placentally to the foetuses and the balance to the new born in her first milk.

Apparently, regardless of how high or low her own titre is, the best the bitch can impart is 50 per cent of her titre. The titre rises in the puppies during the first two days and peaks on the third day. The maximum can vary individually, according to how well the puppy has suckled. No doubt his place in the queue would have a bearing on that. This is a once off delivery, which is not sustained. The antibodies work in the same way against pathogens in the puppy, but the supply is finite, with a 'half life' of around nine days.

'Half life?'. That's an odd one. It is the time taken for half of the atoms in a radioactive substance to undergo decay. So every nine days the level of antibodies in the puppy comes down by half, as for example from 80, to 40, to 20, to 10 and then 5.

They found that MDAs gave perfect protection when challenged with the virus, provided the titre was over 40. When it fell below that the virus started to incubate.

NOW, for the Achilles heel, which CPV had found and was exploiting, with such devastating effect, on vaccinated puppies. The scientists found that a titre above 10 interfered with and blocked the vaccine. For two half lives, a total of **18** days, the level of MDAs was insufficient to protect the dog, by preventing the incubation of the virus, and yet, the titre of MDAs was high enough to obstruct the vaccine, resulting in the dog being left wide open to infection, although inoculated.

That explained the spectacular failure of so many vaccination programmes. Untampered with, a puppy wallowing in virus was protected until his MDAs dwindled to a point that allowed virus to incubate. This was enough to crank up his own immune system and start it making his own supply **before** his mother's supply was completely exhausted. The smoothness of the transition depended on a heap of variables, differing in every individual case. Vitally important would be, how protracted the rear-guard action by the MDAs was, to allow the puppy's own antibody production to come on stream. That also accounted for the very wide variation between individuals, in the severity of the attack.

The very last thing a puppy needs, at that juncture of a life or death struggle, was to have a fresh

load of antigens, in a syringe full of vaccine, dumped in on top of the immune system, further depleting the rapidly dwindling MDAs struggling to hold the virus in check. That was where, by vaccinating in the face of an outbreak, veterinary surgeons went astray.

Having read that paper I saw there was only one way to beat CPV, when puppies were vaccinated they must NEVER have been in contact with the virus. When preparing for a litter, a concrete and steel only whelping kennel was scrubbed down with Domestos, which has a bleach content. No wood anywhere, which is difficult to sterilise. One week prior to her due date, the pregnant bitch was washed down with Domestos and then lifted straight from the bath into the kennel, where she stayed for six weeks.

At every approach the hands were disinfected. Nothing went into that kennel save food, water and bedding material, known to be sterile, which built up in deep litter. The puppies thrived and at the end of the fifth week the bitch was told to say 'goodbye puppies' and lifted out, never to return. Neither party appeared unduly worried. Routinely our dams left the nest at that time, having almost completely dried off and returned once a day, for what was largely a social and inspection visit. Having to forego that visit caused the bitch no distress. The dam was shown her puppies and 'told' they were safe and she was contented with that.

Day 46 was V Day. Each puppy got a dose of Kavak Parvo inactivated vaccine. This was regarded as 'a throwaway' to mop up the residual MDAs. Inactivated was used to remove all possible chance of a live vaccine "shedding" virus. 72 hours later, on day 49, each puppy received a dose of Kavak Parvo II vaccine, the live attenuated type, in the belief that it engendered an even stronger reaction. One week later, at eight weeks old, the puppies were ready to meet the world and face any challenge from the wild CPV. Over the years a great many puppies were treated by this method and **not a single puppy** has come down with parvovirus.

Victory at last. The gentler you approached the virus the better. Softly, softly catchie monkey. No more anti natal vaccinations. No further need to vaccinate adults, or Dupharmun dams. In fact low titres were desirable and encouraged. Haemoagglutination Inhibition Tests could be forgotten about. No more parvo patients rushed to 'intensive care units' of veterinary clinics, running up big bills. No 'booster' dosing, which did nothing

more than boost the Vet's income and the profits of vaccine makers.

The canine parvo virus will remain with us, because there are people who own dogs and just will not vaccinate. Very quickly we become complacent and slip back. It happened to ourselves, we must confess. We'd had no case for two years and parvovirus had become a bad memory when a man rang from Kilkenny. His dog had died a month before and he wished to replace it. He came by and was shown the two ten week olds we had got. They were clinging to his trousers when he straightened up and said, "A pup we got died last week from that thing they call parvo". I advised him his premises would not be the best place for some time, to bring a very young puppy to, so he left empty-handed.

The alarm bells had gone off. Those two puppies had not been inoculated. It was too late now, because the wild virus would win the race. Anyway there was a better than even chance they would not have caught the bug. No such luck. Five days later the first one got sick and was very ill, but eventually recovered. The following day his brother was unwell and just went from bad to worse. Fortunately we had no other litters at the time and he remains our last victim of parvovirus. The lesson was

learned. Puppies must be inoculated before exposure to the general public, who may be carrying the CPV around with them on their clothing.

Treatment of parvovirus is best carried out at home. The vet can do nothing about the virus at that stage and the treatment that he can give will be outweighed by stress from travel, strange handling, etc.. Food should be withheld from a vomiting puppy. Vomiting is not always caused by parvovirus. Water should be kept available and electrolytes added as soon as possible. Electrolytes are mineral salts and glucose. The patient should be kept as dry as possible and handled as little as possible and then supported gently because of the raw condition of the intestines. A daily injection of antibiotics is necessary to ward off secondary infections. If still in the litter separate, but not isolate, to prevent his mates giving him a rough time. Isolation trauma causes a loss of will to survive. Return to food should be gradual. Some puppies restart ravenously and get serious relapses. After 3, 4, 5 or even 6 days off food, (electrolytes has keep them going for longer) it may be necessary to restart digestion by spooned in raw egg, custard, honey, soup, meat juice or chicken, any food that is soft and easily assimilated and the little fellow can be persuaded to swallow.

24 HIP DYSPLASIA



L. Deeply embedded femur heads



R. Severe Hip Dysplasia

Once upon a time many dog owners **assumed** Hip Dysplasia occurred only among German Shepherd Dogs and in smug sarcasm alluded to them as, "The Hippy Dyppy breed". The opportunity, to criticise, arose because GSD owners were the first **to do** something about the problem. Later the critics were chagrined when it was shown that the condition is widespread among the canine population and 7 or 8 breeds they fancied are more severely affected than the German Shepherd Dog.

HD in dogs was first diagnosed, in 1937, by Moltzen-Nielson. It has attracted widespread interest because of an almost identical condition in humans, which makes hip replacements necessary. Over the past 60 years hopes have been raised, by claims of cures by vitamins, special diets, exercise and other preventative measures, only to be dashed down again when the claims were shown to be spurious and ill founded. The condition is most definitely genetically influenced. Hip Dysplasia can be a very serious diseased condition of the hip joints, leading to total immobility in the most seriously affected cases.

In 1961, Malcolm B. Willis BSc. PhD., in youthful exuberance wrote, "HD is caused by a single dominant gene with irregular manifestations". If only Malcolm had been right then, HD would be a thing of the past by now. Geneticists have had to row back from that position and accept the likelihood that a group of genes are involved. Bearing in mind the complexity of hip joint construction, the very wide ranging degrees of severity and the irregular inheritance of the condition, the conclusion cannot be otherwise.

For the owner, who has had a beloved pet go down in the prime of life with HD, those two words can bring on nightmares, coupled with heartfelt wishes that something be done about it. HD occurring among GSDs was taken very seriously, at an early stage, because of the extent of their use as Utility Dogs, by services in many parts of the world. The cost of training dogs for the services are incredibly high, taking food, accommodation, staff salaries, etc., into account, on top of the purchase price. These high costs are factored in over a working life expectancy of 6 to 7 years. Should a dog

break down shortly after training, then there is a very substantial financial loss involved.

Palpation of the hip joints of puppies, to ascertain the presence of dysplasia has been tried, but that method proved unreliable. From experiments, personally conducted, the presence of dysplasia can often be detected, by measuring the protrusion, from the pelvis, of the femur heads, by planing across the femur from the crest of the ilium to the tuberosity of the ischium. When the femur levels with these 2 points, then the score will be negligible, but as the femur protrudes out of line the score mounts up.

Roentgen radiography gives a more reliable picture of the physical condition of hip joints and so the procedure of x-raying dogs was adopted, first in the United States shortly after the second World War, primarily because that country was about the only one in post war devastation which could afford the expensive equipment. Sweden was next to follow and the SV, Germany, adopted an x-ray scheme in 1966.

Radiographic plates are similar to large film negatives. Body tissue allows most of the x-rays to pass through and darken the plate. Bone impedes the passage of the rays and as a result produces a lighter outline on the plate, which represents that part of the skeleton.

Under tutelage, the lay person can learn quite a lot, but accurate evaluation of what appears on x-ray plates requires highly specialised veterinary and radiological expertise. A number of x-ray schemes now operate in different regions of the globe. The basic x-raying procedure is similar, but there are different interpretations of the plates and widespread divergence of control measures, to remove severely dysplastic dogs from the pool of breeding stock. That is a major fundamental shortcoming in both KC and GSD League Schemes, operated in conjunction with the British Veterinary Association, BVA.

In the GSD League handbook for 1983 Glenteall Kennels, Leicester, then the leader in x-raying with 134 dogs scored, published a page of scores of their breeding stock. Examples are, Brinton Robbie 17-17 = 34, Brinton Stacey 48-47 = 95, Glenteall Major 25-24 = 49, Glenteall Oliver 36-42 = 78 and Glenteall Kerry 19-10 = 29. The maximum possible worst score is 106. Under those scores the proprietor went on to claim he was, "showing consistent improvement of hips in my breeding programme". Well when you are flat on the bottom the only way left

to go is up, but it beggars all logic and reason to go to the trouble and expense of identifying dogs, with scores so high that their hips are falling apart and then proceed to breed with them and proudly claim to be improving the situation. Therein lies the impotence of the BVA Hip Dysplasia Schemes.

The hip joint in mammals is constructed on the ball in socket principle, emulated by mechanical engineers in the ball hitch for attaching trailers, which provides a universal joint which facilitates the attachment to swing in every direction. In dog and man the necks of the femurs are cranked over at near right angles, presenting the heads of the femurs horizontally opposed, each fitting snugly into a fossa, or cup, in the pelvis, at the junction of the fused ischium, ilium and pubic bones, which form the pelvis. The hip joint is one of the oldest mechanical inventions around. Nature patented it at least 300 million years ago and fitted it, for greater mobility, to reptiles, birds and mammals.

In perfect assembly the hemispherical cone of the femur head fits tightly and snugly deep in the matching acetabular fossa in the pelvis. The contact surfaces of both are covered with synovium, a smooth Teflon like, tough cartilage which is constantly lubricated with synovial fluid, for virtually friction free contact between the moving parts.

In less than optimum construction the cone, or the cup, may be irregularly shaped, causing excessive wear and tear. The femur head may show varying degrees of subluxation, in extreme cases the femur head may be running on the rim of the acetabulum, the freedom allows it to thrust about and the smooth coating becomes chipped. Bone growth repair work is carried out, but that only further damages the opposing surface and from there on degeneration of the hip joint accelerates rapidly.

Tolerance of HD is much an individual matter. Some dogs live out an active life apparently unhindered by a fairly severe degree of HD, will power overcoming disability. A dog should not be destroyed, merely on the basis of what appears on his radiographic plate. My biggest regret, was over putting down Achilles of Vaduz, while still a young dog, because his hips showed up less than perfect. That was before the BVA Scheme and we were striving for perfection. His plate was never scored. He was so lightly affected that his score may not have reached double figures, certainly not as high as the average for the breed, around 17. He may well have been genetically free of HD, as his daughter, Donna, and **ten** of his granddaughters,

out of Donna, were all 0-0 and received BVA certs.

Achilles was bred by Anne O'Keeffe, wife of Paddy, editor of the Farmer's Journal. He was by Elch v. Kaiserpark, through Asko and Thor to Raps v. Piastendamm and out of Afra of Wenden, who was by Eiko vom Haus Paul, a son of Alf vom Convent VA. Both Elch and Eiko were imports, brought to Ireland by Peter Wendland.

We began our x-raying programme with a veterinary surgeon who shall remain anonymous, but after a scare with Bingo von Binde we changed to the College of Veterinary Medicine. Bingo was overdosed with anaesthetic and remained knocked out for 24 hours, while we sweated, fearing we had lost a dog, who had cost a hefty four figure sum. After that I refused to have any of my dogs anaesthetised for x-raying.

Then I met Dr. Hester McAllister, who has a good part of the alphabet after her name. A true professional, she is a perfectionist, courteous and patient. She x-rayed over 50 dogs for us and not one was anaesthetised. It meant wearing the lead-lined protective clothing while lifting the dogs onto the table, turning them on their backs, gripping their forelegs and enfolding their heads and shoulders while soothing them into limp relaxation, allowing the second helper to correctly extend the hind legs horizontally and in parallel. Hester was highly commended, from London, for the quality of the plates we obtained.

By providing an expert panel, of scrutineers, to examine suitable plates sent to London, the British Veterinary Association collaborated with The Kennel Club in operating a Hip Dysplasia Scheme for all breeds, in which they aspired to a gold standard of pass, or fail. Where there were no indications of it, a certificate was issued that the dog was HD free. All others were failed. So few passed and so many dogs failed that owners became discouraged and the Scheme was rather poorly supported.

The GSD League, which had recently undergone a name change from The Alsatian League, introduced a Scheme of its own, in July 1978, alongside that of the KC. Again the BVA provided the technical expertise, but this time score sheets were issued, giving the results, showing where, which, why and what was wrong with 9 aspects of each hip joint. The aspects are ; Norberg angle, Subluxation, Cranial Acetabular edge, Dorsal Acetabular edge, Cranial Acetabular rim, Acetabular fossa, Caudal Acetabular edge, Femoral head/neck exostosis and Femoral head recontouring. Each aspect was grad-

ed from 0 to 6 according to distortion, so $9 \times 6 = 54$ and $\times 2$ hips gave a possible top score of 108. After a while there was a slight correction. One aspect could only be scored to 5, as if it would make any difference, at that degree of distortion, so now the maximum score for 'double top' was 106. A new numbers game had been invented, BVA Bingo.

Dr. Willis undertook genetic research, on behalf of the GSD League. Score sheets and pedigrees were sent to him for tabulation, recording, analysis and publication of

results. Very soon we were being snowed under, with reams and reams of statistics. For instance, the BVA GSDL Hip Scheme report Nr 8, 1980. On the strength of a mere 855 dogs scored, Dr. Willis managed to work up an article running to eleven foolscap pages of statistics, on the MONTH and YEAR of birth, SEX EFFECT on distribution of scores, in percentages, through the 9 aspects of right and left hip joints, AGE EFFECT, KC versus GSDL categories, German "a" stamps in recent years, table 7. Hip status of various categories, genetic analysis, table 8. Heritability values of traits (once again 9 aspects of each hip joint, right and left, with all totals expressed in percentages, with comparison adjustments for errors. All that worked out on well short of one thousand dogs scored.

Dr Willis was urging that **all** plates be forwarded for scoring and was displeased because some vets were advising their clients, "This one isn't worth sending up". That recommendation would have carried far more weight if it were, "Forget about scoring, this dog definitely should **not** be bred from". Scoring dogs appears to created, in the minds of some people, justification to breed with them, regardless of how high their scores are.

Under the BVA GSDL Scheme certs could still be obtained, when merited, at an extra charge. A sort of consolation prize was introduced, a Breeder's Letter. No, it had no French connections. Owners of dogs failing a cert, but not exceeding a score of 7, in either hip, received a Breeder's Letter stating there were indications of HD, but at the present stage of eradication it was permissible to use the dog for breeding purposes. That was a laugh, seeing there were no constraints whatsoever on animals used for breeding in these islands and furthermore, breeders were openly using dogs for breeding, with scores in multiples of the mean average of 17 for the German Shepherd Dog breed .

All sorts of anomalies cropped up, sparking some of the wildest theories. At one stage left hips

were doing rather poorly and the suggestion was made that **pulling** the left hock into the show stance was to blame. Our 'Nutcracker' missed with 1-3. Had it been 2-2 she'd have gained a cert. We also had a fail with Valhalla's 9-0 = 9 and got a Breeder's Letter for Bingo with 7-7 = 14. Which was the worst affected animal?

When the BVA Scheme was extended to the Republic of Ireland, around 1979, we had plates for Bella, whose pedigree was all Irish and English dogs, apart from Cent zu den Fünf Giebeln, Condor vom Hohenstamm and Ria Wikingerblut, all on the 4th row, her daughter, Eroica, who was by a son of Black Count, who was Brittas on both sides, her other daughter, Donna, by Achilles and Donna's 4 daughters, Maritana, Merry Widow, Madame Butterfly and Manon Lescaut by Jason of Violet hill, son of Hein v. Konigsbruch, who was at stud in England, making Jason a half brother of Canto von der Wienerau. All 7 scored 0-0. We were pleased, but matter of fact, believing HD was a rare occurrence.

The next batch were for Condor Raycid, an Impuls aus Germany son bred by Raymond D'Arcy. Donna's 5 daughters, Navarraise, Norma, Nutcracker, Nocturne and Naxos by Barry vom Herzogtum Franken SchH 2 V. (I think he travelled on to Australia). Of the combined thirteen 12 were 0-0 and 'Nutcracker', unlucky thirteen, spoiled the picture with a score of 1-3 = 4. We were disappointed with that. How naive can one be.

Malcolm Willis said to me, "Perfection is hard to maintain". How prophetic he proved to be, for when we took Nutcracker to Belfast, at the height of 'the troubles' there, to meet Kay vom Surenheider See SchH 3. V. FH., son of Sieger Canto von Arminius, we let in the wet. Kay had only an "a"NZ stamp for hips, which is third grade. That we were aware of. We were not aware that Kay had scored 40+ in the League Scheme, which is much too high for a dog at stud. Admittedly he was well on in years when x-rayed the second time, which wouldn't have helped matters. As a result we got our worst batch of scores ever, C.Valhalla 9-0 = 9, C.Venus 13-1 = 14, C.Valkyrie 12-10 = 22 and C.Vogelwacher 36-36 = 72, our worst ever. That put an end to our clear run.

In total we have x-rayed 61 dogs at Castlewarden, 58 of whom were home bred and had 56 dogs scored by the BVA. Of those 21 received certificates and 22 merited Breeders Letters. 15 scored 0-0, 21 in single figures, 13 from

10 to 16 inclusive and 7 scored 17 and over. Accumulated scores of 553 gave an average of 9.875 for the group.

The SV Hip Dysplasia Scheme.

The HD Scheme operated by the SV, Germany, is voluntary, but there is no scope for the breeder who opts to remain out. A nation-wide panel exists, of radiologists and practising veterinary surgeons, with expertise in radiology, who have applied to and were approved by the SV. Dogs are x-rayed at their owner's request. They must have attained their first birthday and be positively identified by the tattoo mark in the ear, put there by an appointed tattooist while the puppies were still in the nest.

Hip status is classified in 7 grades. At present 3 grades are acceptable and receive the "a" Zuerkannt, or A stamp. The best grade is Normal, stamp is "a"NZ, which needs no explanation. The second grade is Fast Normal (Fast = almost) where the hips are almost normal. The stamp is, "a"FN. The third grade, where there is some slight dysplasia, is Noch zugelassen = still allowed, the stamp is "a"NZ. At present registration is granted to litters from dogs in this grade. 4 grades are rejected. Animals falling into those grades have Schwere huftgelenkdysplasie = Heavy HD recorded against them and shall not be eligible for shows, but more importantly their progeny will be denied SV registration.

The radiologist taking the picture also decides on the classification and sends the radiograph, pedigree and documentation to the SV headquarters, from where the x-ray plates are sent in bulk to the co-ordinator of the Scheme, Professor Dr. Brass, Hannover. There is provision for an owner, dissatisfied with the grade obtained, to appeal. My impression is that it is rarely, if ever, used. When all is in order the pedigree is returned to the owner, stamped and certified on the bottom right corner of page 3. By the way pedigrees **are** the property of the SV and **must accompany** the dog on change of owner. On the death of the dog the pedigree is to be returned to the SV, but, in fact, very few are.

Now we shall try to make a dispassionate comparison, of the SV Scheme with the BVA Scheme. No Scheme is ever 100 % perfect, because of human frailty and weakness. There have been bitter condemnations of the SV Scheme published by a few owners in England, bitterly disappointed with the dogs they imported. While having the deepest sympathy with those people in their misfortune, for

the sake of balance, it must be pointed out that 1, or even 2, swallows do not make a Summer and the entire SV HD Scheme should not be totally denounced, on the basis of a few isolated unhappy instances.

When the SV Scheme was inaugurated the hips of the GSD breed, in the country of origin, were in a very grotesque state indeed, as reference to the year 1969 in the table will show. A Scheme similar to the KC BVA Scheme would have been impracticable, at that stage, because 90 % of dogs would have failed to pass.

Had the SV gone that road **none** of the VA dogs of the past 20 years would have ever existed and the family tree would be very denuded of quality at

the top, for all four of their dominant ancestors, namely, Canto, Marko, Mutz and Quanto, **would** have failed to pass. The SV plan was to move towards better hip status, without losing the essence of the breed. There was no point in having a breed with sound hips and little else. Their Scheme is simplistic compared to that of the BVA. Some may not like this, but it is a fact, that Germans have a facility for simplification, while the English can make simple matters look complicated. As proof of that statement compare their Postal Codes. The English codes are a jumble of numerals and letters representing compass points. Just the street name and house number, over a 5 digit code, ensures delivery to anywhere in Germany.

PROGRESS IN COMBATING HD. EXTRACTED FROM THE SV ZEITUNG

Year	N	%	FN	%	NZ	%	Mid HD %	Heavy %	Total		
1968	148	9.87	309	20.63	624	41.66	394	26.30	23	1.54	1,498
1969	214	8.83	493	20.33	1,234	50.88	449	18.52	35	1.44	2,425
1970	351	11.23	784	25.09	1,455	46.56	502	16.06	33	1.06	3,125
1971	500	11.49	1,227	28.20	2,079	47.78	502	11.54	43	0.99	4,351
1972	926	16.61	1,887	33.85	2,046	36.71	599	10.75	116	2.08	5,574
1973	807	14.13	1,706	29.86	2,367	41.43	741	12.97	92	1.61	5,713
1974	820	11.78	1,666	23.94	2,779	39.93	1,454	20.90	240	3.45	6,959
1975	1,118	16.83	1,944	29.26	2,644	39.90	770	11.59	167	2.52	6,643
1976	1,388	14.84	3,179	34.00	3,837	41.03	862	9.22	85	0.91	9,351
1977	2,288	24.69	3,303	35.64	2,788	30.09	756	8.16	132	1.42	9,267
1978	2,632	29.04	3,343	36.89	2,121	23.40	805	8.88	162	1.79	9,063
1979	3,271	31.37	4,033	38.68	2,171	20.82	757	7.26	194	1.86	10,426
1980	3,364	32.54	3,779	36.55	2,281	22.06	770	7.45	134	1.40	10,339
1981	3,468	34.58	3,500	34.89	2,143	21.37	740	7.37	179	1.78	10,030
1982	3,594	38.14	3,271	34.71	1,723	18.29	685	7.27	150	1.59	9,423
1983	3,581	37.93	3,040	32.20	1,861	19.71	828	8.77	131	1.39	9,441
1984	4,176	39.93	3,341	31.95	1,877	17.95	929	8.88	134	1.28	10,457
1985	4,529	41.55	3,466	31.80	2,006	18.40	769	7.06	130	1.19	10,900
1986	4,772	46.42	2,904	28.25	1,768	17.20	736	7.16	99	0.96	10,081
1987	4,601	48.38	2,493	26.21	1,601	16.83	722	7.59	93	0.98	9,510
1988	4,449	53.15	2,013	23.47	1,255	14.63	700	8.16	51	0.59	8,578
1989	4,693	51.10	2,308	25.13	1,426	15.53	706	7.69	51	0.56	9,184
1990	4,808	47.69	2,922	28.99	1,623	16.10	651	6.46	77	0.76	10,081
1991	4,382	52.89	2,213	26.71	1,131	13.65	479	5.78	80	0.97	8,285
1992	5,721	58.15	2,324	23.62	1,241	12.61	470	4.78	83	0.84	9,839
1993	5,826	62.79	1,972	21.25	952	10.26	462	4.98	66	0.71	9,278
1994	5,525	59.84	2,144	23.22	1,027	11.12	456	5.05	71	0.77	9,233
1995	7,966	63.40	2,780	22.13	1,137	9.05	537	4.27	144	1.15	12,564
1996	6,257	59.23	2,476	23.44	1,160	10.98	521	4.93	150	1.42	10,564
1997	6,231	51.61	2,232	22.07	1,087	10.75	467	4.62	96	0.95	10,113
1998	6,480	64.14	2,012	19.91	1,077	10.66	446	4.41	88	0.87	10,103

While there is an unexplained blip, for 1974, steady progress towards better hip grades has been made, by the simple expedient of excluding the worst affected dogs from breeding, while using those with acceptable grades. Although the incidence of severe HD stubbornly persists, around one per cent. Statistics can prove anything, so the sceptics say, but the undeniable benefits of the SV HD Scheme are, that as the percentage has grown, there are a great many more dogs here today with sound hips. A fair and unbiased assessment would accept that the Scheme has gone a long way in achieving what it set out to do, **control** the incidence of Hip Dysplasia in German Shepherd Dogs.

The KC BVA Scheme was aimed at the **eradication** of Hip Dysplasia from dogs. Experience has shown that the eradication of any diseases in animals is extremely difficult, even where the cause can be identified. The Irish Government has spent over a billion pounds on the eradication of bovine TB, without achieving total success. The best we can hope to do, in most cases, is to **control** the incidence of a disease. To date, 1999, the **cause** of HD has not yet been identified and remains hidden in the DNA of the dogs. Scientists are close to a discovery and it will come soon. When it does it may be possible to breed dogs totally free from Hip Dysplasia. Meantime control should be aimed for, by removing the worst affected animals from the pool of breeding stock.

Roentgen radiography cannot and will not find the **cause** of HD in dogs and it is misleading to issue certificates that dogs are "free" of HD, based on radiographs. The BVA and Dr. Willis were creating the impression that scoring dogs for HD, on the basis of what appears on their radiographic plates, is an exact science. An impression which would be totally erroneous, for interpretation of what appears on the plates remains highly subjective. The x-rays

reveal only the physical condition of the hip joints, on the date in question, they **cannot** reveal the **cause** and the degree to which the dog is affected genetically, which is bound to determine how the condition progresses, as the dog ages.

The majority of responsible dog breeders and owners, in Britain and Ireland, hoping to eradicate the incidence of HD, by x-raying and scoring their dogs, at very considerable cost to themselves, stand bewildered by the lack of success of their efforts. They have followed what has proved to be an illusory misdirection, while both The Kennel Club and the Irish Kennel Club are prepared to do absolutely nothing to discourage the use of severely dysplastic dogs for breeding purposes .

'Hip Scoring', by Dr. Willis, dated 18th March 1985 gave a mean of 16.47 for 5,911 GSDs scored. The most recent tally available, dated 30th January 1998, gives a mean score of 19.00 for 26,538 GSDs scored by the BVA, which discloses a worsening of the condition of Hip Dysplasia by 15 % in the breed over the previous 13 years. That is proof positive that the BVA Schemes, as operated in Britain and Ireland for the past 20 years, forgetting about eradication, have proved to be dismal **failures** in controlling, or reducing the incidence of Hip Dysplasia among our dogs.

Some action must be taken, to alter the present unsatisfactory situation. Where severe HD occurs among progeny, registered by the Kennel Clubs, of parents who have scored above the breed mean average, say 20 for the German Shepherd Dog breed, putting them among the worst affected half of the breed, then the breeder **and** the Kennel Club should both be liable at law for heavy damages. **There can be no excuse, or justification, for breeding with dogs from the worst affected half of the breed.**

25 HAEMOPHILIA

Haemophilia is a disorder of the blood, which permits excessive and unstoppable bleeding from just minor cuts and bruises, which can prove fatal. It is one of the oldest recorded maladies known to man and figures in the Talmud, the Book of Laws and Traditions of the Jewish race, in ancient Judea. It is clear from their Laws that the Jews not only recognised the ailment, but also had a clear understanding of how the weakness was transmitted, for when death from excessive bleeding following circumcision occurred, all future sons of that mother and her sisters were exempt from the ritual of circumcision.

More recently, haemophilia became very well known, through the effect it had on the closely interrelated royal family of Europe. In the minds of the masses it was, "The royal ailment, which has something to do with their blue blood". Some of those unfortunate blue blooded sufferers lived their lives like goldfish in glass bowls. The most outrageously bizarre case was that of the tsarovitch, Alexander, young heir to the throne of the Russian Empire.

Queen Victoria of England carried the defect, but was fortunate only one of her four sons inherited it to become a 'bleeder', but quite unwittingly she liberally distributed the defect across Europe, through the bevy of daughters she succeeded in marrying into other royal families. It was said of good Queen Vicky, she did far more to destabilise royalty, than ever Karl Marx did.

Tsar Nicholas II had married the German Princess Alexandra of Hessen, a grand daughter of Queen Victoria, and their only son was unlucky enough to be a 'bleeder'. Crisis followed crisis every time the boy bled, not merely for his family, but for the stability of the entire Russian Empire.

The situation looked grim, for Russia, until there was a fairy tale twist to the saga, but the figure who came on the scene was far removed from and most unlike a fairy godmother. Grigory Rasputin (1872 - 1916) was an unsightly and uncouth Siberian construction worker, who donned the garb of a monk, which was about the extent of his holiness. He turned up at the palace gates presenting himself as a mystic and faith healer. In her desperation, tsarina Alexandra was ready to try anything.

Miraculously Rasputin stanching the bleeding and a crisis passed. In so doing he won the undying devotion of the empress and was immediately inducted into the royal household, with access to the tsarina's inner sanctum.

Old Ras took full advantage of his newly exalted position. Although illiterate, he made political, as well as ecclesiastical appointments. By mesmerising the tsarina, while her husband was away, commanding his army in the great war, Rasputin, in effect, virtually controlled the internal affairs of the second most powerful empire on earth. Talk about putting a beggar on horseback. His evangelical message was, "Sin, that you may obtain forgiveness" and his nude romps with the court ladies, reputedly including Her Serene Highness, were so flagrant that even the hard-boiled courtiers were scandalised.

Jealous of his influence, they became embittered and plotted to remove him, by poisoning, but Rasputin was as immune to strychnine as he was impervious to their criticism and pursued his erotic hobbies until 1916, when they shot him and, for good measure, drowned him in the icy waters of the Neva, to be doubly sure of finishing him off. It is a wonder they did not also put a stake of holly through his heart.

Rasputin most certainly was an uncanny larger than life person with some remarkable facility for faith healing. His secret of success, with the boy prince, would appear to have been hypnosis.

Haemophilia in dogs was first described by Taskin, in 1937, during extensive research undertaken into the problem and centred on Chapel Hill dogs in England. Twelve breeds, including GSD, were studied. The condition in dogs was found to be similar to that in humans. Due to the significance of haemophilia among humans, considerably more research has been undertaken, than the incidence of a rare condition among dogs would normally justify. It was already well established, when bleeding occurred that the blood clotted, arresting the flow and then formed a scab while repair work was carried on beneath. In haemophiliac cases the blood ran like water from a faucet, without clotting. Researchers undertook the task of discovering what was present, or absent, in each case which made all the difference.

They discovered 'the blood clotting cascade', a rapid chemical chain reaction, triggered by vitamin K in the blood, on coming into contact with oxygen in the air, to release the enzyme thrombokinase, which causes the conversion of inactive enzyme prothrombin to active thrombin, which is the catalyst of blood plasma soluble protein fibrinogen into insoluble fibrin, which is white protein fibre and together with the platelets of red blood cells, forms a matting over the wound which arrests bleeding and eventually dries into a scab. That's not all, for calcium and a variety of other enzymes, called factors, are required for effective clotting. When a factor is missing the chain reaction is incomplete and clotting will not occur.

Four forms of haemophilia were encountered and designated A, B, C and AB when both A and B occurred concurrently. Each form was linked to the absence of enzyme constituents in the blood, which were identified as factors VIII, IX and XI. Form A, the most severe form is caused by the absence of factor VIII and was also found to be the commonest, being encountered five times more often than form B. Forms AB and C are extremely rare. Forms A and B are sex linked recessives, while C is a rare dominant

A single recessive allele on the x chromosome is responsible for the absence of factor VIII, the cause of haemophilia A. Since form B can occur with, or without, form A it follows that a second defective gene occurs at a different locus on the x chromosome. The x is, of course, the female sex chromosome and in the female normally they are XX, but in a female carrying the defective allele the chromosomes will be xX, in which case the dominant chromosome is able to make good for her lazy partner. Female 'bleeders' were not encountered. The odds against double recessive xx pairing off are enormous, because they must come from a 'carrier' mother and a haemophiliac father. My theory is that double recessive xx chromosomes would prove so lethal, as to cause the death of the foetus. With both parents affected like that, each 4 of their progeny should pan out genetically like this ; one male 'bleeder', one male completely free, one female 'carrier' and one female 'bleeder' (which doesn't appear to happen).

Every male carries a female X chromosome. He got it from his mother to pass on to his daughters. That makes his sex chromosomal pairing XY. Y being dominant over X in determining that his sex is male, but undoubtedly there are trades off, at

other points along the sex chromosomal pairing, because the gene on the Y chromosome providing factor VIII (we'll call it F8) is unable to prevent the f8 gene on the defective x chromosome, with which it is coupled, from playing hooky with the production of factor VIII.

Haemophiliac fathers can not pass haemophilia to their sons, even if they tried to, because their Y-chromosomes, determining their male sex, remain uncontaminated, but they can do so to their grandsons, via their daughters. For ALL the daughters of a haemophiliac father will be 'carriers', that's if he has any, since the condition is debilitating and greatly reduces libido. The main line of transmission remains from mothers to sons, making them 'bleeders', and mothers to daughters, making the daughters 'carriers' in turn, but only 50 %, that's every second one, of the sons and daughters of a 'carrier' mother will receive the defect causing gene and by virtue of inheriting her other healthy X chromosome the remaining 50 % will be clear of the defect and sound as bell metal.

The extent to which haemophilia is present among dogs, and more specifically among GSDs, is unknown. There are few breeders courageous enough to publicly admit to the existence of haemophilia in their kennels, because the stigma attached would be out of all proportion. Since many victims of haemophilia die young, when the umbilical cord is severed, or at the first knock, or bruise, some owners may very well be genuinely unaware of the true cause of death.

The incidence could be much higher than most people suspect, for Canto von der Wienerau SZ 1176588 SchH 2, 1968-1972, has been under deep suspicion, as has his most famous daughter, Flora vom Konigsbruch SZ 1264185 SchH 1, of carrying the defect. Canto was one of the Big Four at the start of the seventies. Bred by the late Herr Walter Martin, not in his own world famous kennel in Viernheim, but from a bitch on breeding lease. There are hard to explain enigmas about Canto. He was very active at stud during his brief lifetime and covered his full permitted quota of 60 bitches per year, for the two years he was at it. That level of sexual activity would belie the suggestion that he was haemophiliac, because it tends to depress libido, but his circa 100 litters is proof of his virility. Then there is his very early demise to explain.

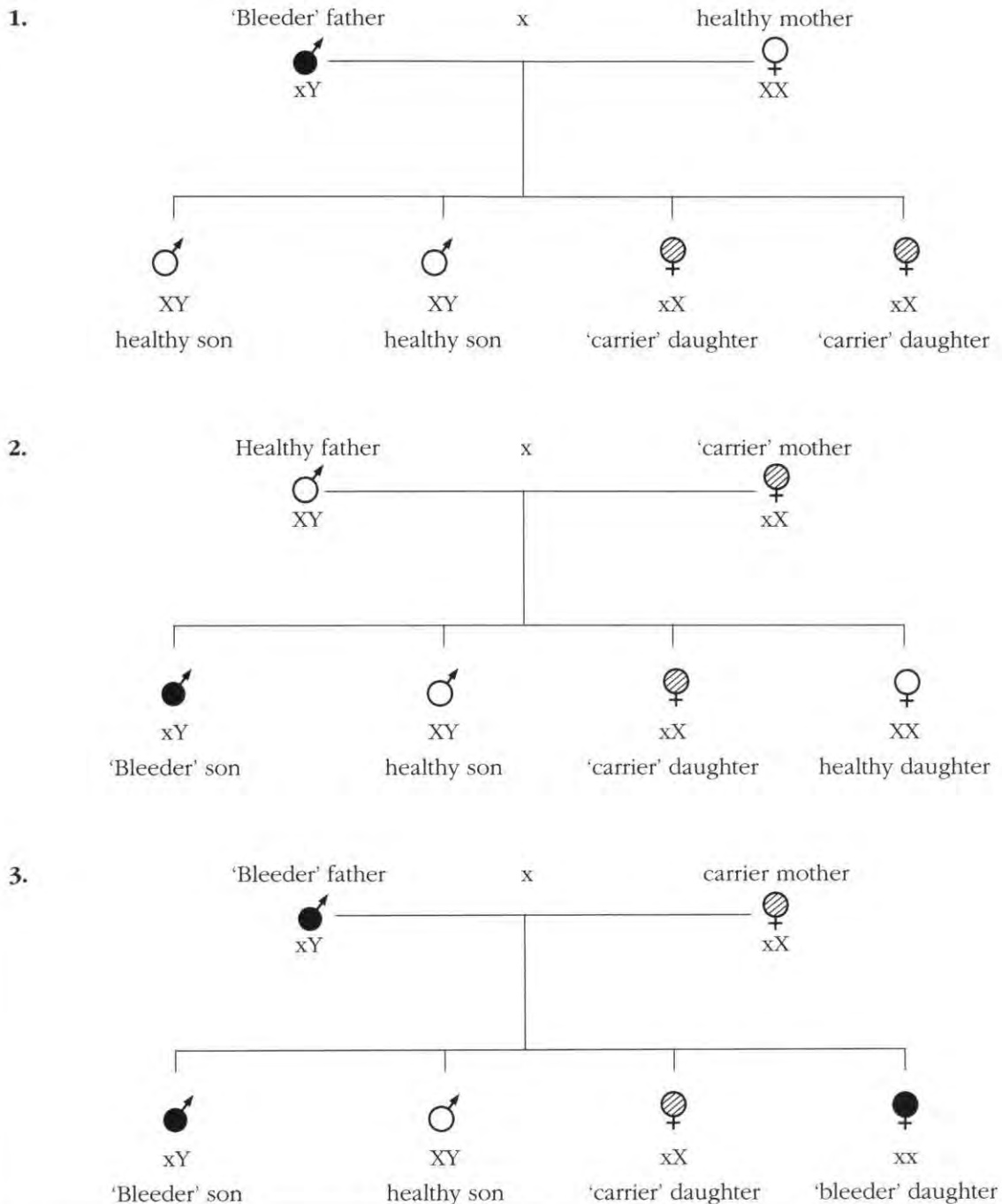
A Canto grandson, Udo v. Haus Goldschmied '76-'85, who came to England, was publicly declared to be haemophiliac. If Canto was haemophiliac, then

every last daughter of his was a 'carrier'. People are naturally reluctant to talk about something so serious, but, good or bad, information about individual animals, prominent in the breed, should be made available to the public. That's as far as I can venture into this matter. Should Canto have been exalted for his good croup alone, or expelled for his several weaknesses, is left for wiser judges to decide.

Synthetic factor VIII has become available and went on sale in 1993, but that is not the solution, where breeding dogs is concerned.

Most of the technical information on this subject was derived from an article by Dr. Med. W. Simon, (vom Piastendamm) Bochum, which appeared in the August 1979 SV Zeitung.

INHERITANCE OF HAEMOPHILIA.



26 TRAINING

Where basic training has been delayed, or neglected, for whatever reason, until the dog is much older, compliance is harder to achieve. Get the dog to bond with you, by feeding and then slip on a check chain and leave for a day or two, for the dog to grow accustomed to wearing a necklace. Then clip on the leash and let the dog drag it around to grow accustomed to the appendage. Never left alone though, where the leash could snag on something and strangle the dog. Pick up the leash and **stand** to allow the dog discover the limitations it imposes on his movements.

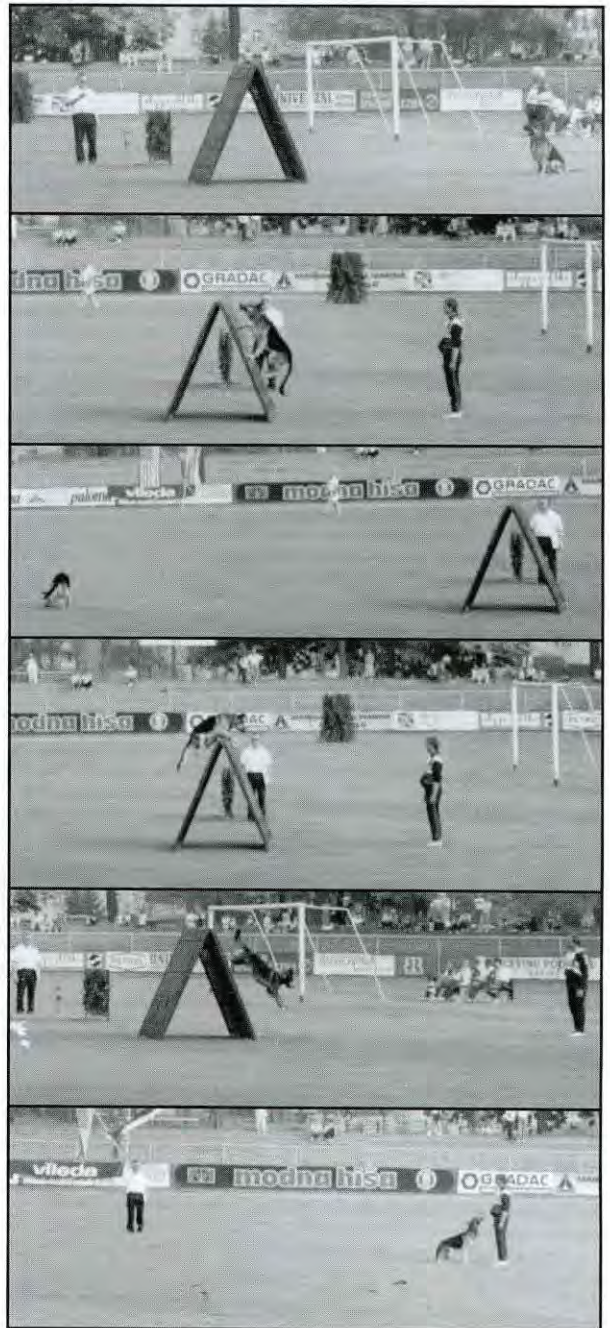
At first the dog will tend to panic, when the check chain constricts around the neck and it is important to have the chain on correctly. Be patient and very gentle, if the dog shows terror. Gradually accustom the dog to be on the correct side, which happens to be your left. Do this by calling the dog to you and turning to the right as the dog approaches, giving the command, FOOT. When both parties are in line abreast say the command for the position you want assumed and stand close beside the dog. Very soon the dog will learn that there is the correct place to be. When the dog knows where to go, the single command, FOOT, can be used for the dog to take up station at your left leg.

Personally, I reject the commonly used, 'Heel', for two reasons. Firstly, "Heel" conjures up in my mind the image of a well whipped cur dog treading fearfully in the footsteps of its swaggering lord and master. Secondly, 'at heel' behind one's back is not the place for a partner, for that is what a GSD should be, who may be called upon to protect and defend you, at a moment's notice. At obedience competitions, one hears that ubiquitous four letter word uttered, for slow and fast walking, running, left, right and about turns, etc., until it becomes meaningless. In addition to the command words dealt with in the primary lesson, teach the dog to take directions. Every time you change direction, as you are about to turn say, LEFT, RIGHT or ABOUT, whichever is appropriate, instead of that boring, "Heel".

JUMPING

Teach the dog to jump obstacles, on command. Place an insignificant barrier, like a broom handle,

across the path and together run up to it and make a great pretence of clearing a high hurdle. As you are about to jump urge the dog with the command, HOP. Height of the hurdle may be increased incrementally, to suit the dog's ability. When the hurdle becomes too much for you, just run out by the side and let the dog do the jumping.



Retrieve over 2 metre sloping hindrance

German Shepherd Dogs are among the best jumpers there are. The Royal Air Force police get their dogs to jump 3 metre vertical hurdles. The record over vertical hurdles stands at 5 metres, held by a German Shepherd Dog. There are cleats near the top, which the dog uses to scramble up and over. There has to be a landing stage on the other side, as 3 metres is too great a drop for a dog. The RAF team put on a marvellous display for us, during the 1991 Sieger Show, in Karlsruhe. A series of novelty acts ended with the last dog jumping on the handler's back, to be carried piggyback out of the arena.

A note of caution here. Puppies and young dogs should not be put over high jumps, or allowed jump down from heights, until skeletal development has completed, around 14 - 15 months, and the muscles, ligaments and sinews have tightened up.

"SPEAKING"

As Daubenton suggested, well over 200 years ago, in his "Complete instruction for the sheep herd Owners and Shepherds", the dog should bark, or go silent, as his owner desires. You just can't tell a dog to bark and he will know what to do. To start the dog barking may require a little ruse, e.g., the doorbell ringing. S/he may not be of an age to start barking, so be patient. When s/he is startled, by an outside influence, hiss like escaping steam. When s/he barks encourage, by patting firmly on the ribs while urging, S-S-P-E-E-K. After a few barks give praise, for a job well done. Now that you've got the motor switched on and running, you must also know how to switch it off. The barking must not be allowed go on interminably. Change your voice to a peremptory tone, that must be obeyed, and give the order, ENOUGH

To stress that the dog must hush up and remain quiet, while you admit someone, place one hand behind the ears and with the other hand firmly, but gently, close up

the lower jaw. While the mouth is closed, peremptorily drawl the command, QUI-ET, in a low tone. When admitting strangers, adopt a calm demeanour, so as not to excite the dog.

It would be unreasonable, to expect a dog to remain mute at all times, but it is totally unacceptable to allow barking, to the extent that it becomes a nuisance to your neighbours. After a spate of barking, praise the dog, for giving warning and add that's ENOUGH. If barking is resumed, very firmly give the command, QUIET and enforce it.

As strangers approach, observe your dog. The dog will study them intently, but frequently will glance at you, for your reaction. In a barely audible whisper say, FRIEND, if you intend to have a greeting and introduce your dog, "Max, meet a friend", before shaking hands with your friend. In the reverse situation, where you do not want your dog to fraternise, whisper the German word, boese, (boosa), or coin your own word, which is unlikely to be understood and cause offence, if overheard, while steering your dog aside.

Some casual acquaintances will rush forward, with arms extended, to enfold the puppy and this disconcerts the dog, because GSDs generally remain aloof, until well acquainted and have sussed out the newcomer. Be very cautious of people your dog distrusts, for the dog may be a better judge of character than you are.

TESTS

The novice owner, of a well trained GSD, may consider entering competitions and wonder what is



Local clubhouse, Vereinheim Hemsbach

involved. Each dog and handler form a team and compete separately, to complete a set of exercise, which have a scoring value. The composition of the exercises varies widely, to suit the proficiency of the team, from beginners right up to veterans. At regional, or international level, teams are usually comprised of six handlers with dogs.

Obedience competitions and Section B of Schutzhund, are very similar. Great emphasis is often placed on precision, to the extent that self-assured exuberant dogs tend to be penalised, while spiritless robots do well. A tail put to one side, often loses points for a, "crooked sit". The dog being attentive is of paramount importance, for success in competitions. The dog shall walk correctly on the left side, must not barge ahead, pull to the side, or lag behind. As directed, by the examiner, the pair execute a series of manoeuvres, at slow, fast and normal walking speeds, right and left turns, about turns, where the dog turns to the right and the handler turns in the opposite direction, passing the leash from hand to hand behind the back. Each action must be done to a single command. The same manoeuvres may be repeated with the dog **off** leash.

Some dogs cause a problem, by pulling away to the left. The recommended way to correct that, in training, is to find a tree, or pole, and walk briskly past it. Let the dog go left while you go right and hold the leash taut for the jolt. Then admonish the dog, "Look what you've done". If the dog is not stupid he will soon learn to stay close to you.

Subtlety will work far better. Carry concealed a treat, or toy, which the dog knows is there and s/he will not look away from you.

SIT

Out of movement. Walking at normal pace, with dog by knee and off leash, the handler gives the command for the dog to SIT and walks on, with no break of speed or other signal to the dog. The dog must respond instantly and remain sitting until called on, or rejoined by the handler. Usually, after 30 to 40 strides, the dog is given a sight, or sound, signal to catch up and must do so without delay and resume station at, FOOT.

STAND

This exercise is a repetition of, SIT, but the dog remains standing, after the appropriate command. On the command, the dog must cease movement and stand still, until the next command. This can

create problems, as it is easier to creep forward, when standing. Disobedience is harder to spot. A smart dog will move, when you are not looking and stop when your head begins to turn. A good idea is to carry a pocket 'rear view mirror', to slip out unobtrusively and keep the Smart Aleck under observation.

It is better to deal with STAND before SIT, as you may have to support the dog with your arm, to prevent sitting, until the dog gets the message that is not what you want.

DOWN

This is another variation, usually done from running. The dog hits the deck on hearing the command DOWN, given with emphasis, while the handler runs on. As the competitions get tougher, distance and time are increased, perhaps to 10 minutes while the handler leaves the arena. When the handler returns he walks up to and around his dog, still immobile, to take up station, with the dog correctly on his left hand side.

Getting the dog to stay put, in STAND, SIT or DOWN, can take time and patience. After the dog obeys the first command, repeat 'STAY' slowly, while making a mesmerising gesture with the fingers of the right hand. Move slowly around the dog and to and fro a little, just a step or two, all the time reassuring the dog he is doing what you want him to do. Little by little increase the distance between you and the dog. The slightest movement, by the dog, draws a rebuke, that is not what you want him to do.



Retrieve over 1m. hurdle



Handler out of sight for 10 minutes

RETRIEVE

The importance of a good retrieve has been mentioned, in chapter 08 Police Dogs. Like most training, retrieving should be started at an early age. It is quite natural for dogs, to carry things in their mouths. Getting them to do it, when you want them to, is where the problems arise. Start off the very young puppy, by rolling a soft ball past him in play. Encourage the dog to bring the ball to you. Never move towards the dog, when s/he is in possession, for the dog will start to play "chase me Charlie through the barley". Pretend to lose interest, or go the other way. Make sure the ball is big enough, not to easily find its way into the dog's stomach, for the assortment of articles removed from dogs stomachs is unbelievable. Golf balls must not be left with puppies.

In competitions there are variations on the theme of the retrieve. The basic element is that the dog retrieves an article, such as a dumbbell, when told to, and returns it to the handler. Starting, the dog sits beside the handler until told to, FETCH, a

dumbbell thrown some distance over level ground, a one metre hurdle, or a two metres A shaped clamper hurdle. The dog must clear the hurdle, pick up the dumbbell and jump back over the hurdle, come close and sit directly in front of the handler, holding the article in the mouth, until asked for it. Having relinquished the article into the hands, s/he is told, FOOT, and walks clockwise around the handler, to the latter's left side and sits, completing the exercise.

Usually, there is no great bother getting the dog to bring back the article. The trouble is to get him to sit and hold it, until asked for it. For that reason, don't leave him waiting too long, when starting. When giving the command, FOOT, take a step forward and to your left. That will leave the dog, getting off his haunches, no option but to go around behind you. An added inducement is to pass the dumbbell from the right to the left hand, behind your back.

TRACKING

Can be resume out of doors and undertaken in earnest, when the dog is safely inoculated, with the aid of a family member the dog is fond of, who runs ahead, just a short distance, to stand stock still beside some feature, like a tree, not necessarily completely out of sight. Meanwhile, the dog is held on leash and then urged by the command, SEARCH, to find the missing person. When s/he does, they greet like long lost friends. Distance is increased progressively, as the dog becomes proficient and starts using the nose. Then tracks can be made more complicated, each time, but never beyond the dog's ability, not to defeat the dog, but, to get to know what SEARCH means.



Off leash through group.

Dogs employ two methods, 'tracking' and 'scenting'. When 'tracking', the dog can follow, by picking up the odours of crushed vegetation, disturbed soil, etc., mechanically produced by the passage of the track layer. The dog may be confused by fresher intersecting tracks and, therefore, is not reliable when tracking.

When 'scenting', the dog is picking up the individual scents and odours of the track layer, left in passing, by footwear, exhaled breath, sweat, etc., which makes the dog much more reliable, especially under difficult conditions.

Keep the dog happy and alert and don't persist in a routine, to the point of boredom. Drudgery never made an enthusiastic worker. Those games of Hide and Seek build progressively, right up to the very serious tasks of Red Cross -, Avalanche -, Mountain - and Disaster Rescue Dog Services, where dogs are used to search for humans in distress and there certainly are no better searchers than German Shepherd Dogs.

AGILITY

This is a dog sport, similar to equestrian show jumping, which evolved in England during the 1980's and was promoted by Peter Lewis. It has

caught on rapidly and is immensely popular. Almost every breed of dog can participate. The dog and handler, as a team, are pitted against the clock to complete an obstacle course, somewhat similar to that of a show jumping arena. Penalty points are incurred for refusals and poor performance

Unlike Schutzhund training, which requires collaborators, every dog owner can have their own course, by erecting a few hurdles in their own backyard and practise there alone. A typical course would have up to 20 obstacles, such as one metre hurdles, two metre sloping hindrance on an A-frame, see-saw, ladders, to climb up and down again, motor tyres, to jump through, small table to jump onto, weaving poles, sack and rigid tunnels to negotiate, with a U bend to 'break' the light, single plank 'cat walk' at shoulder height, etc.. A really fun game for energetic young people and lively agile dogs.





The Lunte

ing more than that. Schutzhund competition has become an internationally recognised **sport**. What follows is an overview of the subject and no inference is given that it is definitive, on any of the several grades. There are pages on pages of minutiae, which are revised every so often.

The sport was devised by the SV, shortly after the society was founded, as a legitimate off farm activity for members to engage in, in accordance with the rules and objects of the society, to further the mental and physical fitness of the members and their dogs. Schutzhund is also a training qualification awarded to dogs who pass, at a satisfactory level, a series of tests designed to test the dog's endurance, tracking ability, obedience in handling and readiness to protect the handler. Originally there was a single examination, which received the award, Schutzhund, abr. SchH. Now there are three grades mounting progressively, in stiffness, from SchH 1 through SchH 2 to SchH 3.

The competition is in three sections, A, B and C, each with a possible highest score of 100 points, combined maximum 300 points. Minimum points required to qualify are, Tracking 70, Obedience 70 and Protection 80 = 220 receives the minimum 'Good'.

Max von Stephanitz showed deep insight into canine psychology when he devised the code of Schutzhund training. Some, but not all canines, have a strong pack sense, the members support and defend the pack leader. The instinct is strongest among wolves. It is strong among certain breeds of domesticated dogs, notably the GSD, whose 'pack' may comprise of the household members and a whole variety of other domesticated animals and fowls, with, of course, the humans in the role of pack leaders, who will be defended to the death, if need be. The response expected from a Schutzhund, or Bodyguard Dog.

Apart from killing prey for food, which is necessary for some species to survive, most fights in the animal world are over territory, or between males of the same species competing for mating partners and are seldom fought to the bitter end, although a combatant may die subsequently from injuries received. The vast majority of such contests end when one party displays submission and throws in the towel, so to speak.

This is the second fundamental principle of Schutzhund, that the dog will break off combat, immediately all threats of violence towards his handler have ceased, which is indicated, to the dog, by

the 'helper' ceasing to struggle and displaying submission, by going limp. Schutzhund trained dogs react confidently, to threats of violence, from a position of self-assurance that they have the authority to remove the threat, which is diametrically opposite to 'guard dogs' attacking strangers, from fear of receiving further brutalization.

THE LUNTE

The lunte is a soft sleeve shaped jute rope, used to build the dog's self-esteem in combativeness for the Protection phase. A rolled towel will suffice, to start the puppy off.

Trail it slowly past and see how it is latched onto. Then engage in a gentle tussle, pulling forward and then letting the puppy win it back. Always let the puppy think s/he is the winner. Introduce control at an early stage, to show that the dog must break off combat, when you decide. Stop tussling and let the lunte go limp. Wait a moment before using the sternest command, OUT. Then use the, 'Daddy dog' grip, to ensure the dog fully releases the grip on the lunte. A careful balance must be struck, not to discourage the dog.

At a much later stage, when Schutzhund training begins in earnest, the 'helper' will use the lunte, laid across the arm, to bring the dog onto the armel, the padded sleeve. Family and household members, should **not** act as 'helpers', in arousing the dog's protective instincts. That is confusing matters and, while it may not confuse the dog, it is sending the wrong signals. Stimuli should come from an outside source.

Section A, tracking. A Schutzhund must show ability to track. Follow a recently laid track of several hundred strides and recover a number of articles, dropped by the track layer. The dog works in tracking harness, on the 10 metre leash. Some dogs lie, others stand, to indicate finding an article, which must not be mouthed (for risk of booby traps).

There is a separate qualifications for Fahrtenhund, FH I & II = Tracking Dog. 1 & 2. The tracks are stiffer, minimum 1,500 strides, at least four hours old, with several bends and intersected by false trails, as well as the dropped articles. Not too difficult, for a good 'scenting' dog in normal conditions. When we attended the WUSV competition in Maribor, Yugoslavia, tracking was on a vast collective farm. Many 'tracking' dogs failed on the bone dry recently tilled soil, which was not conducive to retaining scent.

The obedience section, B, is similar to Obedience in the preceding chapter. As part of SchH 3 the dog, off leash, must negotiate through a group of people milling about and these are the dogs Padraig Flynn insists we put muzzles on. Why, then, is Schutzhund training, which produces such well behaved dogs, so feared and maligned? That is partly rooted in an age of racist propaganda, against everything German and partly in misunderstanding the *raison d'être* of the breed, but it is



Schutzhund training, under strict supervision

mostly engendered by an abhorrence of 'man work', a misconception that is all too often formed in a cloud of complete ignorance. Antagonists of Schutzhund training refuse to see it otherwise than as, the dog **attacking** the man.

A small book, "german shepherds" by E. C. Mansfield schalk, TFH Publications, Inc, New Jersey, contains a strong warning, against **all** "attack and protection work". That sweeping statement was made from a position of complete ignorance, about Schutzhund training. It is accompanied by 5 photographs, which illustrate most graphically how training should **not** be done. In 2 the dog is sitting and in 2 more the dog is **lying** on the ground, while the burly 'helper' is jabbing the dog in the mouth, with the *armel*. That is purely and simply 'guard dog' training, guaranteed to make the dog vicious and unreliable.

The correct method, of building the dog's confidence, was photographed on the Übungsplatz = training area of Hemsbach Ortsgruppe. Carried out under strict supervision the exercise ends by the dog winning the *armel*.

Section C, the protection phase, is strictly regulated. A Schutzhund must **never attack**, but is expected to **defend**. Ironically, the deeply imbued animosity to Schutzhund training prevailed in both Britain and Ireland, while **un**regulated, often cruel and dangerous 'guard dog' training was allowed to flourish. It has been my experience, that the most vociferously hostile opponents, of Schutzhund training and sport, were the 'trainers' and purveyors of 'guard dogs'. There has got to be an ulterior motive wrapped up in their opposition, that of protecting vested interest in their shabby business.

The accompanying diagrams illustrate the Following Free (off leash) and Protection Service sections of Schutzhund 3. Handler and dog enter at point A and start a search for the 'helper' (the bloke in the padded suit), concealed in one of the half dozen hiding places. With a command SEARCH and a hand direction toward the nearest hide, the dog sets off at a brisk trot, while the handler slowly walks the imaginary centre line. The dog must circle around each hide and on finding it empty crossover, or quarter, to the next hide on the opposite side. The handler is permitted to redirect the dog. On locating the 'helper' the dog announces his find by barking continuously. The dog stays close, less than a metre away, but must not bite, or tug at the person. The 'helper' remains motionless, in submissive mode. The handler slowly walks up, calm-

ly calls back the dog about five metres and puts the dog in DOWN position. The 'helper' is then asked to step outside and stand.

The handler deliberately turns his back on the 'helper', searching for contraband or stolen property in the hide, leaving the dog watching the 'helper'. The 'helper', on a signal from the assessor, avails of the opportunity, to slip away and make a run for it. While his handler's back is turned, the dog must not let the 'helper' get away. Without requiring a command, the dog goes in pursuit. Gripping the *armel* a struggle ensues until the dog brings the fugitive to a halt and he goes limp in submission, at which point the dog releases his grip, or must do so on the single command OUT.

The 'helper' is then told to threaten the dog, which he does by brandishing his stick. The dog should repel the attack, by biting hard. While he is doing so the 'helper' is permitted to strike the dog twice, on less sensitive parts of the body, to test the hardness of the dog. There are strict limitations to the size of the switch and the force used with it.

The dog shows hardness (*baerte*), by not flinching from the blows. The 'helper' is then frisked for weapons, while the dog watches from the DOWN position. The switch is not removed. The 'helper' is now under arrest and the 'Transport', for a distance of around 40 metres, takes place with the 'helper' walking ahead, followed by the dog (closest) and handler, both a couple of metres behind. The 'helper' makes a sudden attack, on the handler, which the dog must instantly repel, by taking a firm hold of the *armel* and resolutely holding on until the assailant ends the attack. At that the dog lets go his grip.

A second 'helper' is now involved in the *mut probe*, by making his appearance over 50 metres

away behaving very belligerently. The dog is sent to deal with this troublemaker, whereupon the 'helper' runs toward the dog, trying to frighten the dog off by brandishing his stick. The dog should proceed at full speed and without wavering to intercept the 'helper' and halt him by fearlessly taking a firm hold on the 'helper', via the *armel*. While doing so the dog displays *mut* = courage, *baerte* = hardness and *kampftrieb* = combat drive, when away from the handler, which may be adjudged *ausgepraegt* = pronounced, or merely *vorhanden* = present, which will be entered on the dog's pedigree. Throughout this test the handler must remain at least 50 metres distant and not assist the dog.

When each assault, initiated by the 'helper', ends by him going limp in submission, the dog should let up = *laesst ab* and **must** do so on a single OUT command. Failure to do so is faulty and will earn the notation, *laesst nicht ab* = did not let up. In recent years more attention is being given to this failing, which is most likely a shortcoming in training. Overaggressive dogs, who hang on and refuse to let go, like those who have received guard dog 'training', will not qualify for Schutzhund.

Too frequent testing of a hard biting dog can render the teeth sensitive, from contact with the *armel*. To avoid putting the dog off biting and going stale, restrict tests to 1 or 2 per week.

The foregoing is merely a synopsis of Schutzhund, limitations of space preclude a fuller analysis of the subject, but there should be enough there to convince the unbiased that a confident Schutzhund repelling an aggressor, is anything but a savage 'guard dog' making an unprovoked attack, because the dog was brutalised and fears further pain and injury from every stranger encountered.

28 THE NOSE

All living creatures are aware of their surroundings through the senses, seeing, hearing, touching, tasting, smelling what goes on in their environment. Not all in equal measure. Different species have different requirements. For instance, humans rely heavily on sight, with hearing and smelling well down the scale, as second and third. That order is inverted in the canine world, with the sense of smell most definitely at the top. We are principally aware of our surroundings by visual images in colour. Manufacturers of consumer goods are well aware of that, when displaying their products in colourful packaging. That is because the diet of our ancestors was mainly vegetarian when the human eye evolved, to recognise the ripeness of nuts and berries and the subtle shades of colour between vegetables and fruit that were poisonous and those that were wholesome.

The canine species evolved as hunters. For animals, like the wolf and dog, who made a livelihood from hunting down prey, a good sense of smell became vitally important and that didn't happen by chance, either, but by the process of evolution, over aeons of time, favouring those with it and ruthlessly eliminating the individuals who lacked it. Members of the canine species with the best noses tracked down the most prey and dined better, so they lived longer and reared larger families. In times of privation they survived while their less well endowed brethren perished. Therefore a dog's awareness of his surroundings comes, first and foremost, through the nose with smell the most vital sense.

Amongst the many varieties of domesticated dogs, the German Shepherd Dog remains closest, in the shape of the head and length of the nose, to that of the ancient ancestor of dogs, the wolf.

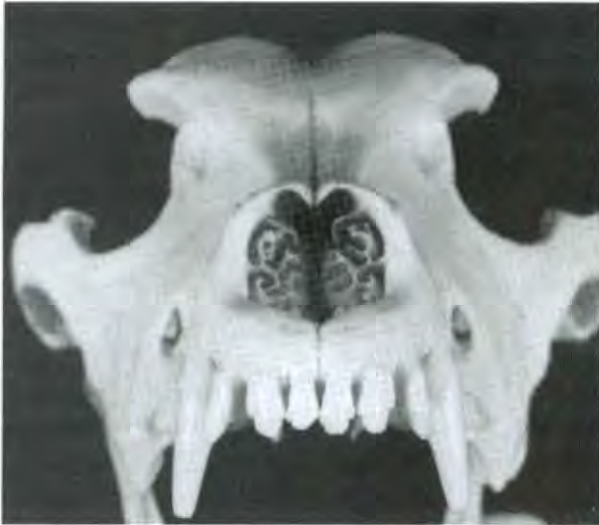
Now the next question is, what are smells and how does the dog pick them up? From the foulest stench to the most delicate fragrance, smells are chemical in origin. Very many are produced as by-products of a myriad of natural processes being performed by enzymes, yeasts, bacteria, etc., working in organic matter, at all stages of fertilisation, birth, growth, ripening, death and decay. Gasses produced by this activity carry atomised scented particles into the air. The airborne particles drift about, or settle on surfaces releasing their peculiar scent until dispersed by traffic, wind or weather.

The nose in mammals has two functions, providing air passages for respiration and housing the regio olfactoria, the region of the sense of smell. The size and importance of this area varies widely between the species. Scientists refer to the two ends of the spectrum as macromatic and micromatic. The GSD is at the top extreme of the first, while man is close to the bottom extreme of the second. What makes the nose of the German Shepherd Dog extraordinary, is the area and density of cells specific for smell identification and the size of the bulbous olfactoria situated in the front of the brain.

From the outside, the nasal ridge of the GSD betrays little of the internal construction. The external tip of the nose is usually damp. The dog uses it as a heat sensor and wind direction finder. It is kept moist by a watery discharge, along runnels, from secretion glands in the nostrils. Dry air is moistened as it is inhaled. This enhances the scent of any particles present. Smells are more pungent when the air is damp.

The bony shell surmounting the upper jawbone is honeycombed into a labyrinth of passages formed by filigreed and whorled layers of very thin cartilage carpeted with a mucous membrane, the epithelium. In the regio olfactoria the cells are of two kinds, normal mucous membrane and olfactory cells, specific for detecting the presence of scented airborne molecules. These cells are linked by tiny nerves, which relay the information picked up to the brain, via the lamina-cribrata, which acts like a telephone exchange. When a dog 'takes the scent', he sniffs, or inhales rapidly, to pass the greatest volume of air over these cells, to get the greatest number of scent particles together, for detailed analysis and recognition, from memory, by the brain.

Scientific research on smell has been ongoing, since the middle of the 19th century, mostly trying to fathom how the dog "took the scent". It was established that each and every living creature gave off a smell that was unique and exclusive to that individual, by virtue of the air exhaled, the food consumed, hormonal secretions, etc.. The sum of these smells amounted to an easily identifiable cocktail, or blend, which a dog could recognise, as easily as a woman may be recognised by the scent she wears. Oestrus, fear and madness, as well as the



Cross section of the nose

perpetration of criminal acts of burglary, assault and murder, produce very distinctive smells.

In 1924, Lohner found that the heavily haired parts of the human, the head and pubes, gave off the strongest smells. The Drs. Menzel, (I think they were husband and wife), stated that the portals of the body, mouth, nostrils, anus and genitalia, produced the sum total of an individual's identifiable body odour, which a dog could pick up and track. W. Neuhaus, in Hamburg, during the twenties, discovered that food, tobacco, alcoholic drink and sexual intercourse, all served to increase the distinctiveness of one's aroma.

In 1942, Laruschkus measured the olfactory regio of three German Shepherd Dogs and the average area worked out at 140 square centimetres. Schreiber made a comparison between the micronatic olfactory region of man, with the macro-matic region of dogs. His findings were; man had just 5 square cm of olfactory cells (the size of a small postage stamp), at an average depth of 0.06 mm and the dogs he examined had an average of

92 sq. cm at an average depth of 0.12 mm, which was double the depth found in man.

J. Kornfehl, in Vienna in 1958, measured the olfactory regions of 5 neonatal pups of different breeds, Fox Terrier, Doberman, Collie and two Dachshund bastards. The results showed an average area of cells at 12 sq. cm proving the dog, at birth, has 240 per cent of the area which is available to an adult human. Anyone who has watched how quickly a puppy, born deaf and blind with epithelial adhesions, can make its way to the milk bar would never doubt that puppies are born with a well developed sense of smell.

Kornfehl also furnished cell counts for the five animals he studied. The density varied between 2,250,000 and 2,500,000 per sq. centimetre and in totals from 18,000,000 to 34,000,000 per animal and remember they were just newly born at that. On that basis an adult GSD would have well in excess of 300,000,000 cells specially provided by nature for picking up smells. With all those cells communicating with the brain, no wonder the lamina-eribrosa, in German Shepherd Dogs, has more circuits than a telephone exchange

There is no question about it, the nose is a vitally important organ of the German Shepherd Dog and is utilised in many of the public services, where the breed is employed.

It is as natural as breathing itself for the GSD to be a good tracker, all that is required is motivation of the dog and good co-operation and intelligent interpretation, by the dog's 'assistant', for make no mistake about it, nose work is where the German Shepherd Dog takes over and his owner, or handler, must be satisfied with second place.

Photo series shows a dog tracking satisfactorily in very difficult conditions, bone dry earth, at the WUSV Trials near Maribor, then in Yugoslavia, now Slovenia.

BOOK THREE

29 THE BROOD BITCH

The importance of the brood bitch cannot be overstated, for she is the fountain that furnishes and replenishes the breed. Without her there would be no breed, its as simple as that. She must be carefully selected and well maintained. Ideally from the top third of the crop. She need not be a show winner, if she is a little more substantial, all the better, but she must present a good breed picture, well within the standard and free from all major faults and shortcomings. Good temperament and physique, coupled with good substance and sound constitution, are all vitally important, for the fulfilment of her role.

So many people, on being attracted to the breed, rush out in their enthusiasm to buy the first available pair of eight weeks old puppies, male and female, to start their breeding kennel. One is reluctant to dampen any enthusiasm for the breed, but could they make a more uncertain start? It very often appears the people most eager to breed GSD puppies, are those who know least about the breed. Some are quick learners, others never do and continue breeding very mediocre dogs. In Germany, only a tiny percentage of owners become breeders and then, frequently, only after a tough apprenticeship with a leading breeding kennel.

The bitch must be anatomically developed and physiologically ripe before her reproductive phase is entered. An immature bitch can not produce and nurture a litter and complete her own development, simultaneously, without serious impairment to one, or both. Yet some people just will not wait an extra six months for the next heat.

There was a report of two personalities, on the Dublin show scene, trying very hard, to get a 10 months old puppy bitch mated by a 9 months old puppy dog. That could

have resulted in her having a litter to rear, months **before** her own skeletal development was complete. If they see this, I hope they are thoroughly ashamed of what they tried to do. All Kennel Clubs should set minimum age limits for breeding GSDs and reject the progeny of immature bitches. The minimum age **at mating** should be

eighteen months. Twenty months is the minimum age for breeding females, permitted by the SV.

A bitch intended for breeding should get plenty of exercise and adequate nutrition to keep her in good athletic trim. Certainly not overfed and over fat. It is a good plan to have the bitch slimmed down approaching oestrus and then start her on a very gradually rising plane of nutrition through oestrus and pregnancy. She should be exposed daily to normal sunlight outdoors, for the beneficial effects it has on the use of vitamins. For instance ultra violet rays convert 7-dehydrocholesterin into vitamin D3.

The first and future reproductive cycles, are marked by the interplay of vitamins, enzymes and hormones, on different organs of the body, at different stages. A GS female may reach puberty and have her first oestrus as early as eight months, or any time after that. From then on the cycle goes round and round. At an early stage, some author wrote that bitches came into oestrus every 6 months and, it would appear, every author since then lifted that piece of information verbatim, showing oestrus to be as regular as the Spring and Autumn equinoxes. In fact, it is nothing like that, for cycles can be as short as three months and longer than a year. Elvira Castlewarden had five in exactly one year, at three monthly intervals. Seven months is closer to normal, than six months.

Each cycle has the following phases, which can vary widely;

Prooestrus	duration	10 days	4-12 days variable.
Oestrus	duration	10 days	3-16 days variable.
Metooestrus	duration	130 days	100-150 days variable
Anooestrus	duration	60 days	30-90 days variable



Daylight, ultra violet light, temperature, nutritional volume and quality, presence, sight, or smell of male dogs, general environment, all have roles influencing the foregoing phases. When growth and development of the female reach a certain stage, the pituitary gland secretes hypophyse, which acts on the hypo-

thalamus, located at the base of the brain and responsible for automatic functions, which in turn sends out hormones which, with the assistance of the central nervous system, awaken the dormant reproductive organs, each to its allotted function. Oestrogen levels rise, allowing the ovaries to get busy and prepare batches of eggs, for ripening and release. The ova are prepared from somatic cells which have each been quartered by meiosis into four daughter cells.

The ovaries are located close to the kidneys, one on either side of the spinal vertebrae. Each ovary is connected, by a fallopian tube, to a horn of the uterus, which hangs like a three cornered hammock, from the fallopian tubes and the cervix, attached to the inner end of the vagina.

The vagina, or birth canal, is a sheath like organ which undergoes rapid enlargement, during prooestrus, by multiplication of the cells by a factor of about 15 - 18. The enlargement causes the organ to protrude noticeably, as a hard swelling. When this burst of activity ends the cells start to die off, causing horning and it is from examination of this horning, that a veterinary surgeon can give the optimum days to try for a mating.

The onset of diaphoresis bleeding marks the beginning of oestrus. This is the Spring cleaning of the uterus, cleaning down the walls and washing away the rubbish, in anticipation of new occupants. The careful breeder will note the following, age of dog, food intake, behaviour, i.e., aggression or apathy, **the date** of onset of diaphoresis bleeding, the volume and when it changes colour. When a mating is intended all of that is important information, in deciding on the best days to try and avoid the frustration of trying to get dogs to mate, when the 'planets are in opposition'. The number, of otherwise highly intelligent people, who expect dogs to mate when **they** decide and not when the bitch is ready to accept a mating, is quite incredible.

Where an expensive stud dog is to be used, or a long journey to be undertaken, often both are combined, it would be a sound investment to have the female checked over by the veterinary surgeon. That could avoid an awful lot of frustration. It is no news to many stud dog owners, the number of females brought along far too early, or

several days too late. The last person to accept responsibility, for a non mating, is the owner of the bitch, who will go away blaming the stud dog, for being, 'no use'.

The uterus muscles, normally inactive, are stimulated by oestrogen into rippling motion, beneficial to the movement of spermatozoa after mating, for relative to size, the journey they make is equal to a swimmer crossing the ocean. Under the influence of oestrogen, mucus in the cervical region changes from sour or acid to neutral or alkaline, which is more conducive to the viability and mobility of spermatozoa. When the hostess has made all the preparations and everything is in order, LH (Lutens hormone) triggers release of the ova and they drop into the fallopian tubes for their big encounter.

When the diaphoresis discharge becomes paler and clearer and the vagina becomes milky white and shows definite signs of shrinkage, then that is the best time for a mating. It is claimed that ova require a day, or two (some claim up to six days) to further ripen after ovulation, before they are ready for fertilisation and then remain in that state for only 24 to 48 hours. Breeders favour different days for mating. Days 11 and 13 are good.

During a mating, semen, augmented by prostate secretion, is ejaculated inside the cervix of the uterus. Within thirty seconds of the mating starting semen was found in the uterus. A 'tie' is **not** essential to have puppies, although most bitch owners are very unhappy without one. The dog starts to ejaculate when he penetrates and stamps from one hind paw to the other. When matters have reached this stage the owner of the bitch must accept the outcome. Should the dog fail to 'tie' another stud dog **should not** be used, on that heat, because the breeder, in all honesty, can **not** give a true pedigree of the puppies. That statement is made, regardless of what The Kennel Club, London, put on their Application Form for, Litter Recording.

Application for puppy registration and litter recording by the breeder. Form 1. Supplied by, The Kennel Club, London. Litter Recording, Item 4, "If, intentionally or unintentionally, a bitch has been served by two dogs in the same heat, the names of both dogs must be given when the litter is being recorded".

Now, if that incredible *faux pas* was to appear on a Form emanating from the IKC it would be commented on condescendingly as, "How typically Irish". When **The** Kennel Club invites applications to Record Litters where **two** sires are involved in producing **one** and the same litter, then it is no longer

a joke and ceases to be funny, because it makes a complete mockery and laughingstock of the whole purpose of providing a pedigree.

Spermatozoa are known to have survived up to eleven days in the uterus, whereas they had vanished from the vagina in just twenty four hours. During the 'tie' the penis acts as a tampon, preventing a reverse flow of sperm into the vagina and consequent loss. The presence of male hormones stimulates the ripple motions of the uterus, drawing spermatozoa toward the fallopian tubes, in conformity with nature's grand plan.

The larger ova drift like hot air balloons, until a wriggling spermatozoo bores into one. A transformation of the fertilised ovum prevents further intrusions, one spermatozoo is quite enough, thank you. The union of the two gametes has formed a single cell, the first of a unique individual, which will develop into a foetus, a puppy and dog, in this case. When fertilised the ova have yet to implant along the wall of the uterus, where, as foetuses, they establish a unique biological relationship with the mother.

By then post, or metoestrus has been entered. Oestrogen levels have fallen for days now and progesterone rises and becomes dominant, preventing the ripening of any more ova. The hostess turns from welcoming on board, to catering for the compliment of passengers being carried. Chemicals should not be administered during pregnancy. Worm dosing should have been done prior to mating. The diet could be checked for adequate vitamins, minerals and proteins and on no account should a deficiency be allowed to arise. From the 5th week food can be increased, to meet the demands, during the final three weeks of the rapidly enlarging foetuses, but not to put fat on the bitch.

PARTURITION

Owners of brood bitches should adopt Murphy's Law, if something can go wrong, it will go wrong.



GSD bitch suckling lion cubs in Berlin Zoo

Stay long enough breeding dogs and everything in the veterinary books will have happened. GSD bitches carry their pregnancies well and only a tiny minority get into trouble. The danger zone, is the final third of the 9 weeks pregnancy, for eclampsia. The most likely cause of toxæmia will be found to be a decaying foetus. Any loss of appetite, raised temperature, or dirty smelly vaginal discharge, should be checked out immediately by the veterinary surgeon, with whom a working relationship should be established, to ensure 24 hour emergency service, should the need arise.

All the reference books give 63 days, as the gestation period for dogs. We found it to be considerably shorter for our GSDs. The vast majority of litters arrived on the 58th and 59th days and one on the 57th day. Any that went over 63 days were in trouble.

A bitch can go into labour and produce a puppy in seconds. One day I went to inspect cattle and brought half a dozen bitches along, for the exercise. There was a flurry of activity behind me and they all ran into a cluster. Returning to see what was the attraction, there squirming on the grass was a newborn puppy, ringed by 6 sniffing noses.

Bitches cannibalising their living young is believed to happen, but it has **never** been my experience. It is not abnormal for bitches to eat their own neonatal puppies **after** they have died. Some bitches would regard the puppies of another, dead or alive, as a great delicacy and for that reason whelping bitches should be isolated, well away from disturbance by animals and people. The ambient temperature in the nest should be as close as possible to that of body heat. The bitch will pant, but that's no harm, if she has plenty to drink. We went to the bother of getting infrared lamps, but after years of dissatisfied use discarded them.

A simple igloo, constructed with hay bales in the kennel, proved far more effective. Inside dimensions were around 80 cm x 80 cm x 80 cm, with a small entrance covered by a piece of old carpet. When the bitch was inside, her own body heat was conserved and adequately heated the nest, even in Wintertime. That method closely approximates conditions in the wild, in which canine females produce their young.

The wild bitch would find a small cave, or excavate one under a rock or among the roots of a mature tree. There, with her back protected, she would fight friend, or foe, to the death, protecting her brood. The maternal instinct among the series

of wild canine species has to be sky-high, to ensure the survival of young born into a harsh inhospitable environment. Domesticated bitches, especially GSD, have it in large measure. Be grateful for it, and respect the instinct. Minimise handling puppies and always reassure the mother you intend doing them no harm. When one, dead or alive, must be removed, then take two and after concealing the first hand her back the second. Children **should not** be allowed clown around a bitch with newborn puppies.

About 50% of bitches develop infection of the uterus after whelping, usually manifested by a greenish foul smelling discharge. As a routine measure the bitch should receive a whacking good injection of broad spectrum antibiotics, like Streptopen. Say 6 to 7 c.c.s when she finishes whelping and the same again about 48 hours later.

A messy discharge is normal for a day or two, as a lot of debris comes away, but if that doesn't clear up and turns darker and smelly, get her to the veterinary clinic by rapid transport. She may forego food and refuse to leave her puppies, for too long a period, then try a ruse. Take a puppy, or two and get her to follow, trying to get them back and that way get her to exercise a little while you make a better appraisal of her condition.

Her appetite may be dull for the first day, from recycling waste, which is nature's way of obviating the need to go hunting for food immediately, so tempt her to eat and when her appetite picks up, don't leave her hungry. A suckling mother, heavily lactating during the second to fourth week, will consume 2 kgs a day, and more, of dry complete dog food. The larger the litter the sooner to start feeding the brood and lighten the load on the mother. If numerous, offer food tastings of very mushy highly digestible puppy food as early as 14 days. By the fourth week the bitch may require some respite and should be allowed time away from the brood.

From our experience GSD puppies can safely be weaned at five weeks, with a visit, or two, a day until the bitch has completely dried off. During pregnancy and lactation watch out for mastitis. Better still, **feel** for it, by running the hand over the mammary glands, feeling for one that is hard or swollen and the puppies are ignoring. A daily practise every owner of a female could adopt, because there is breast cancer and 'dry' mastitis. If caught in time a couple of shots of penicillin will knock out the bug, with little disruption of milk production.

30 THE STUD DOG

The stud dog will require very little extra maintenance, other than a good diet and plenty of exercise. Problems may, however, arise when strange females are introduced for mating. Many owners bring their females for mating on the wrong days of oestrous, refer to the previous chapter, expecting the dog to accomplish the impossible. When the female is ready the male is rarely found wanting and a mating will occur.

Some owners of females, afraid of being bitten, want to hand over the bitch and take no further part in the proceedings. They have nothing to fear from the stud, he will be so engrossed in the work at hand, that he will totally ignore them. It **is** the owner of the stud who is at risk, when the bitch snaps, if the stud hurts her. Should the owner of the bitch fail to co-operate put your valuable dog back in his kennel and call off the operation.

The owner can be of great assistance, by fitting a muzzle and holding the bitch tightly by the jowls with **both** hands and talking reassuringly to her, until a tie is effected. Then the muzzle can be removed and the bitch held on a slack leash, until the mating ends.

The third female Condor vom Sandkotten SchH 3 V got here, (he had previously done some mating in Germany), was a slimmed down maiden. German judges were complaining the dogs in Ireland were too fat, unlike the athletic animals back home, which were nothing but muscle and bone, from constant exercise. As a result, dogs here went on crash slimming courses, through starvation, and this lady happened to be one of them.

She was quite skittish, so her owner stood in front, holding both rings of her very long check chain, high above her head. I was on my knees, supporting her on one arm and guiding Condor in. He penetrated and started to work, but the bitch would have none of it. In a smooth acrobatic movement, she rolled on her side off my arm, withdrawing her head from the check chain and regaining her feet darted off, swinging Condor around in a semicircle and hauling him backwards for a metre or two.

Condor stood facing me, yelping in pain. I moved, on my knees, to one side and saw what was wrong. The bitch had constricted on the end

of his penis and it was stretched, like elastic, between them. Terrified that any interference would only make matters worse I remained immobile. All four, dogs and humans, remained stock still, for what seemed an eternity, but was probably no more than six or eight seconds, until Condor, still yelping, subsided sufficiently to break free. The job was off.

He suffered little physical damage, but he had a very severe psychological after affect, which lasted for upwards of one year. He resumed mating o.k., but as the tie broke he would yelp and whirl around, mouth wide open to savage the bitch. When I was alone the problem was overcome, by tying off the bitch while the mating was in progress and slipping the leash on Condor, ready to haul him away. A year later he would give one yelp and in time he stopped that and completely forgot his bad experience. That bitch, through the careless manner in which she was held by her owner, came close to destroying the sex life and with it the stud services of a very good dog, who had cost us the equivalent of a very fine motor car.

Something similar happened when two of my friends took a bitch for mating. The bitch broke away, before a tie was effected, leaving the stud dog standing, fully extended. "Will it go back?", his lady owner enquired anxiously. The owner of the bitch replied waggishly, "If it doesn't. You'll have the only five legged dog in the country".

Not so funny was an account of an incident in England, involving a top show dog, who was much used at stud. The drill was, once a tie was secured the loving couple were left in bliss, while the humans retired indoors for refreshments and exchange of gossip. One bitch, on seeing her owner disappearing and leaving her in a strange place, panicked and pulled the male backwards through a hedge and halfway across the Shire, before the 'towrope' parted. The dog never mated again, the experience put him off lovemaking.

The stud dog can be involved in the spread of vaginal bacteria, from one female to another, similar to the spread of VD. What the stud owner can do about that is hard to say. Frankly I have no suggestion for that one and pass it over to the veterinary profession.

31 INHERITANCE

Man, and his mate, have pondered the mode of inheritance, ever since the whole rigmareole began. Just how were the characteristics of each individual determined. For a very long time it was attributed vaguely to something "in the blood", which gave us 'blood stock' in racehorses and 'blood lines' for our pedigree dogs,

The answer to the riddle was found, about 140 years ago, in a most unlikely place, the kitchen garden of the Augustinian monastery in Brno, then in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, but now in the Czech Republic. A monk named Gregor Mendel, 1822 to 1884, was fond of pottering around with plants and carefully cross pollinated, by hand, a couple of varieties of edible peas. The monohybrid produced had characteristics of both parent stocks. When the hybrid was propagated things became more interesting, for both parent varieties re-emerged among the hybrids. Gregor was amazed. Why should that happen and the new variety not continue true to type?. He scratched his head for a while and then set about working it out and while musing on peas he solved the riddle of inheritance.

Mendel made a series of tests, to prove he was not fooling himself. When all the tests gave similar results the monk was convinced he had the answer and so he set down his Laws of Inheritance and had them published, between 1865 and '69. He read his paper to learned audiences, they listened politely, yawned and went away. Thinking he was just a batty botanist they promptly forgot all about Mendel and his funny Laws of Inheritance.

Mendel continued his experiments, with bees in the monastery apiary. There his efforts failed and he wondered, but never discovered why. The queen lays **all** the eggs, after a single short flight, to mate on the wing. She will mate with several drones chasing after her and have enough sperm to last for life, laying several hundred fertile eggs every day. Being a celibate monk, poor Gregor never realised the cunning duplicity females are capable of. His queens were flitting over the monastery wall, mating with the local riffraff, completely spoiling the experiment and playing old mogley with his carefully laid plans.

Gregor Mendel reached the end of his holy life and died, without recognition of his discovery.

Then, in 1900, three botanists, working entirely independently, simultaneously arrived at the same conclusion. They were Correns, a German, De Vries, a Dutchman, and Ischermak, an Austrian. When their works were published, someone remembered having heard it all before, hunted up the papers, dusted them off and sure enough it was all there. Rather belatedly, Gregor Mendel was accorded the credit he deserved, for a major advance in science and knowledge of biology.

Mendel's First Law, The Law of Segregation states, 'Every somatic cell, of an individual, carries a pair of hereditary units for each character. Pairs separate during meiosis, so that each gamete carries only one unit'. He asserted some units are more dominant than others and when in partnership, the weaker unit is subjugated by the dominant partner. He was bang on target with that one.

Mendel's Second Law, the Law of Independent Assortment of the Units, may be a little less than absolutely accurate, for the units remain attached to chromosomes and are assorted by groups. That little quibble apart, Mendel's Laws of Inheritance have stood the test of time and are unlikely ever to be overturned. In the propagation of life among man, animals, birds, fish and plants, Mendel's Laws of Inheritance are applied today.

Excepting some microscopic organisms, all life on earth is built on somatic cells, the lowest common denominator of each organism. The nucleus of a cell contains a 'blueprint' of that organism, that is more complex than the mechanical drawings of any man made machine. DNA, deoxyribonucleic acid, is the name of this 'blueprint' and it is self replicating in never ending processes.

Mendel's 'hereditary units' are now known as genes. They are attached to chromosomes, in the nucleus of cells. In haploid cells, like strings of beads and in diploid cells the arrangement is more like a flock of starlings along twin telegraph wires, as the double helix chromosomes are entwined and zipped together. The number varies with the species, man has 23 pairs and the dog has 38 pairs of chromosomes.

Somatic cells could be likened to computer disks, each 'disk' having dozens of chromosome 'folders', on which to store thousands of genetic

'files'. Replication, or copying 'disks', occurs in two ways, which are analogous to dividing an orange. As replication is about to take place protein fibres line up the chromosomes in the centre of the cell. In mitosis, for growth and repair, the 'orange' splits around its girth, or equator, yielding two identical halves, with the full number of segments **halved**. When haploid organisms multiply in this manner, it is called binary fission.

Where sexual reproduction is involved something extra has got to happen, to reduce the two pairs of chromosomes of the parents, to one pair to fit an offspring. This is meiosis, the separation of the entwined chromosomes. It only happens to

eukaryotic cells in the ovaries and testicles. The 'orange' again divides, this time along the polar longitudes, into 4 daughter cells, which develop into gametes. Each quarter has become haploid, having only one **half** of the chromosomes of the parent cell. When a male gamete fertilises a female gamete, the two halves unite and become whole, as a zygote.

The accompanying diagrams attempt to illustrate the processes involved. Abb. 1 shows the separation of the chromosomes of the parents and the reunification, of some of them to form a zygote, which will develop into a foetus. Abb. 2a shows a spermatozoo approaching an ovum. Abb. 2b is after the two have fused in fertilisation. Abb. 3 depicts the division of the 'orange'. Reading from left to right, 1. is a somatic cell, 2. the chromosomes line up for mitosis, by splitting in halves, 3. after division into the northern and southern hemispheres, 4. the chromosomes are marshalled differently for meiosis. 5. this time the main division is North - South, splitting the pairs of chromosomes apart, 6. the end result = 4 daughter cells.

In females **all** the chromosomes in a cell are matched with identical partners and all but **one** chromosome in the cells of males, of the same species, can find identical partners among those of females. Guess why?. This is the sex chromosome, which dictates that the bearer **is** male. In the female the sex chromosomes are homozygous XX and in the male they are heterozygous XY. The dominance of Y over X results in masculinity. By a process, in the testes of the male, which Mendel asserted to be the Independent Assortment of the Units, nature ensures that fathers sire both sons **and** daughters.

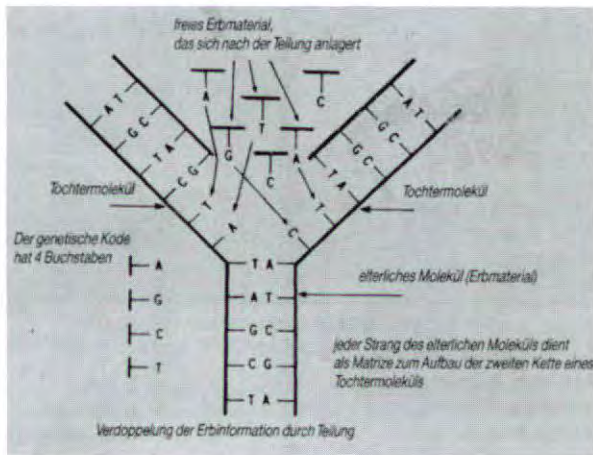


Abb 1

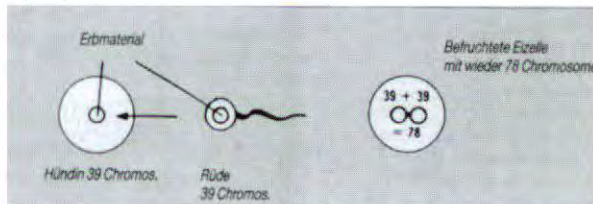


Abb 2

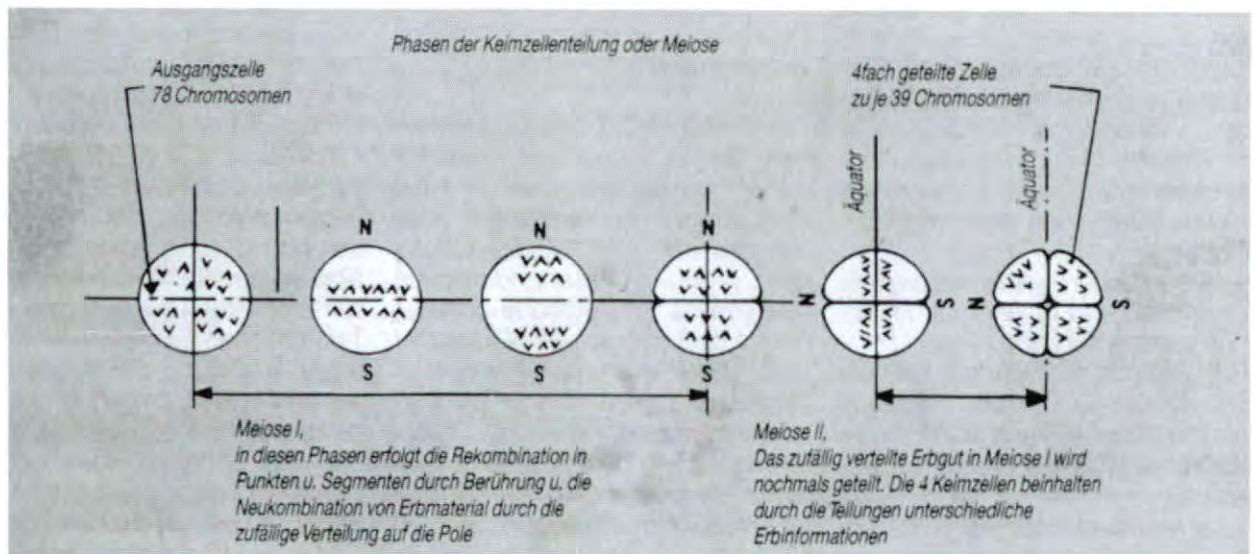


Abb 3

Mink breeding is an ideal medium for the study of inheritance. Mink are bred exclusively for their fur which, of course, is external. Colour ranks almost as important as quality in furs. Changes of colour in fashion can be important in the viability of a mink farming enterprise. The business began around 1920, by North American fur trappers experimenting in keeping mink alive. By trial and error they got them to eat enough, to stay alive in pens and forego their freedom and former lifestyle, of huntin' and fishin' along the waterways. Then there was the problem of getting them to breed. The mink reproductive cycle is the most complex that I'm aware of. In time the trappers worked it out and mink ranching, as it was known in America, was on the way. Skins were offered at auction by the Hudson Bay Co, as 'Ranched Dark', to distinguish them from wild mink, because all were very dark brown. Soon other colours began popping up, mistakenly called, 'mutations'. In fact most were just the result of recessive genes surfacing.

A grey was called, Silverblu, and a very dark blue, called Aleutian by the fur trade, but known by ranchers as, Gunmetal. Another was a light brown, which was designated Pastel and became immensely popular, because the shade was 'warm' and complimentary to most wearers. Pastels became the backbone of the trade. Furriers grandiosely referred to those as, 'Mutation Mink', whether or not they resulted from mutant genes and that's what all ranched skins, other than 'Standard Darks', came to be known as.

The first bundle of Silverblu pelts, offered in 1940, fetched a prince's ransom. The gold rush was on, the really big bucks were in 'mutations'. To speed up production of blues, dark blues and pale blues were mated to darks, but not a blue kilt emerged, only slightly paler shades of dark. When the dark blue were mated to the pale blue it was the same result, even paler darks but not a blue among them.

The ranchers wanted to know what the heck was going on. Geneticists were consulted and their advice was to carry on the experiment, by mating together the hybrids and the hybrids with the blues. The following year, as mink become adult in under a year, the hybrid matings produced a crop with darks and blues in a variety of shades. There were darks that were really dark and others that were not so dark, there were Gunmetal blues and Silverblus and one or two of a new colour, an exquisitely sheer blue which invited the name, Sapphire. The

first bundle of those pelts offered, shortly after the war, fetched \$1,100 **each**, a fantastic price for a strip of fur about 60 cm x 15 cm.

To explain this kaleidoscope of colour, each gene was given a letter of the alphabet, upper case for dominant and lower case for recessive genes. Monohybrids, where just one gene was involved, like the one that causes longcoats in GSDs, were easily explained, like this. Silverblu was allotted the letter s and its dominant partner was S. Now three combinations, SS, Ss and ss, were possible in a single litter when both parents were Ss hybrids, which of course were Standard Dark in colour. On average such parents, with a recessive gene, will produce progeny as follows; 2 like themselves, 1 very dark, without the recessive gene and 1 blue with the recessive gene doubled.

When a second gene was added it multiplied the variable outcome by 4, to 16, a third gene would increase that to 64 and a fourth to 256. In case the ranchers were unable to work out the mathematical permutations, geneticists drew grids, with little boxes for the genes of each offspring, demonstrating how the genes of the parents would separate and come together again in new pairings. The genes for one parent were strung along the top and for the other parent down the side, as in this example with AaSs hybrids;

	AS	As	aS	as
AS	AASS	AASs	AaSS	AaSs
As	AASs	AAss	AaSs	Aass
aS	aASS	aASs	aaSS	aaSs
as	aASs	aAss	aasS	aass

In every 16 offspring there should be, 1 Standard Dark pure from recessive genes AASS, 8 dark hybrids with recessive s or a genes, or both a and s, 3 Silverblu with ss, 3 Aleutian with aa and 1 Sapphire, double recessive combination of aass. That works out exactly as Mendel said it would. It also bears out what he stated about Random Assortment.

A single dominant gene produced Bluefrosts. When present, regardless of the basic colour, it

produced a lighter hoarfrost appearance along the back, which could be very attractive. Homozygous double dominants should have appeared, but they never did. The theory was, that in the homozygous state, the gene was lethal, causing death of the foetus. Bearing out that theory, Bluefrost litters were on average 25% smaller. A single gene may be very, very tiny, but its influence can be mighty.

Producing white mink afforded a study of dominant and recessive genes, where the dominance was incomplete. A dominant gene for white fur was less than satisfactory. When present in the heterozygous state, Ww , it was about 90 % effective, with dark hairs liberally distributed over the body and a quaint little dark skull cap on the head. When homozygous WW , results were better, but still left a problem with scattered dark hairs.

Then a recessive gene turned up, h for Hedlund White. The mink were pure white, with jet black eyes and nose tips, but when homozygous hh , the gene had a serious side effect, causing total deafness. Not much to worry about in an animal soon to be a pelt? But at mating time the female couldn't hear the male's peculiar chuckling serenade, as he approached and fearful he intended to eat her for dinner, she resisted and fought. And some. The female mink weighs just one kilo, but has more fight per kilo than any other animal in creation. Adult mink are solitary creatures and meet briefly for a mating in March that is all rape and no romance. The males are in no mood for trifling, or lengthy courtships, as they dash around, trying to

make as many conquests as possible, in the limited mating period. After a month encountering white lady mink, Macho Mink has more holes in him than a string bag.

If the white females do mate they make damn bad mothers, unable to hear new-born kits lost in the bedding material. Kits are born naked, about three quarters the length of a king-size cigarette and not much fatter, they perish and die quickly. The easiest way to breed whites was to put a white hh male to a hybrid Hh female. They were easily identified, because the dominance of the dark H gene was not complete. The recessive h gene manifested its presence in white paws and about two to three cm of white tail tip, producing an ensemble sported by Felix the Cat. The results from those matings were 50 % Hh , like mother and 50 % pure white hh , just like dad.

From our short digression into the genetics of mink we have learned that a single gene, just one of many thousands in a somatic cell can alter the entire appearance of an individual who happens to have it allotted to them at fertilisation. We also can see that a dominant gene is not always completely dominant, or that a recessive gene is not entirely cloaked, in every instance.

While any individual has dozens of chromosomes and genes by the thousand, no single individual can hold all the genes of a species. Many chromosomal loci, or sites, have series of interchangeable alleles. Which genes go into each individual at fertilisation is like being dealt a hand of cards from a very large deck.

32 GSD COAT COLOUR

If the inheritance of colour in mink appeared complicated, hold on for a rough ride in this chapter. The spectrum of coat colours in the German Shepherd Dog breed is very broad, from all white through many shades of silver, yellow, blue, grey, brown to all black.

The colour of the finished coat is the result of pigments, called melanins, in the skin. Melanins are black and brown oily substances which are produced by the body and deposited around the hair follicles, to be absorbed through the roots of the hair and stain the proteins while converting into hair. Production of melanins is heaviest just prior to shedding and growing a new coat. Then the extra deposits in the tissue turn the skin dark.

Production of melanins is controlled, or at least influenced to some extent, by genes at nine different chromosomal loci. The genes are identified by the following letters;

A, B, C, D, E, g, m, S and t.
 B-B g-g m-m and t-t,
 are homozygous, becoming identical twins regardless of the mating, throughout the entire GSD breed.

A. Stands for Agouti or, Any colour you like. There are at least five alleles which can perch on this roost. Think of all the variations they can produce. Geneticists add on sets of letters, to represent extra gene pairings. After a bit this method becomes very unwieldy, like doing maths in Roman numerals. For instance the notation for quadruple recessive mink looks like the alphabet jumbled up. The Arabs went one better than the Romans, in numerals. I suggest we adopt the Arabic system in numbering off the alleles consecutively, more or less in the order of their dominance, one over the other.

Geneticists have had a field day, working out the order of dominance of the A series alleles. Burns listed them in the order below, with which others are not in full agreement.

The A gene derives its nomenclature from the agouti, the South American herbivorous rodent, which is of a grey colour very common in wild animals. The gene is recessive, or at least a dominant allele of it exists and when present the dog is an all black.

- A1-A1. All black, whether homozygous A1-A1, or heterozygous A1-a1.
- a2-a2. Agouti /wolf grey.
- a3-a3. Sable.
- a4-a4. Black saddle, with extensive area of tan.
- a5-a5. Bi-colour, black with very restricted tan markings on head & paws

Excluding A1, which will be dominant all black in any event, the following heterozygous pairings are possible, a2-a3, a2-a4, a2-a5, a3-a4, a3-a5 and a4-a5. Try working out the order of dominance of that lot and what they would look like.

In Germany, especially among competitors in performance competitions, there is a very strong belief, rooted in tradition, going back to the grey Hessian Herding Dogs, that agouti grey a2-a2 dogs are the most intelligent. Since they occur in litters with black and golds, it must all be down to that litty bitty a2 gene. Strange things can happen with genetics, but it would take a great deal more than that to convince me that the gene which causes the coat colour to be grey also works wonders on the grey cells, in the brain box.

C. Stands for Colour factor and also, Colour **less**. The cause of albinism is similar to the cause of haemophilia, due to the absence of a factor. When the enzyme tyrosinase is not produced by the body the production of Colour factor in melanins is inhibited. The C gene requires the most urgent attention from breeders of German Shepherd Dogs, because it is at the root, quite literally, of colour fading. There are three alleles for this locus which affect, in varying degrees, the amount of Colour factor in the deposits of melanin.

- C1-C1. Abundance of Colour factor.
- c2-c2. Colour factor production severely inhibited. Partial to total albinism.
- c3-c3. White dog with dark eyes and muzzle. When paired with C1, as C1-c3, production of Colour factor is usually adequate. That is not the case with the other combination, C1-c2, where the recessive c2 makes its presence felt. Production of much less Colour factor manifests itself in 'washed out' and creamy pale yellow coats.

D. Stands for Dense pigmentation and also for

Dilution. This is a dominant gene with one recessive allele, so the permutations are simple. Similar to the Long Coat gene.

D-D. Dense pigmentation

D-d. Some dilution will result from the presence of the recessive d gene.

d-d. Dilution of black pigments to blue.

Iljin, working with Dobermannpinchers, found a recessive allele, which he claimed, diluted black to blue and when homozygous, d-d, ergo the doggy was singing the blues !. Well, whatever about the singing part, the dog is a *blauling* and true blue in colour.

E. Stands for Ebony, which can also be Eclipsed.

E1-E1. Produces black masks whether E1-E1, E1-E2 or E1-e3.

E2-E2. Dominant, without black mask.

e3-e3. Is believed to play a role in colour fading.

In the early days there were brindled, or dappled GSDs, referred to as, *gestromt*, in the SV Colour Code and the condition was provisionally attributed to a gene in the E series, but where it ranked in dominance is now hard to say. Brindle dogs were ousted from the breed some fifty to seventy years ago and so the gene that produced them must have been dominant, for if recessive brindles should pop up from time to time.

S. Stands for Solid and also for Spots. For this hard working S gene has a single recessive rascal allele flitting about causing any amount of mischief.

S-S. Colour pattern solid all over the dog.

S-s. Recessive s allele causes tiny white spots.

s-s. White on face, chest, legs and tail tip. Almost a Border Collie, in fact.

This is a case of a dominant gene which, when S-S, gives good pigmentation all over, but has a recessive allele, s, which can cause small white, or light shaded, spots on the chest and inner sides of legs. When homozygous, s-s, it can cause white markings on the face, tail tip and quite large white patches on chests. Some dogs sported them like starched shirt fronts for evening wear. They plagued the Brittas line, and many another, from pre war to the fifties and sixties. They are a lot less evident nowadays.

EYE COLOUR

The gene responsible for colour of the iris has two recessive alleles. The gene for dark eyes is domi-

nant, but the dominance of the first over the second and the second over the third is only partial.

Ir1-Ir1 Dark brown eyes.

ir2-ir2. Light brown eyes.

ir3-ir3. Light yellow eyes.

Six genotypes, Ir1-Ir1, Ir1-ir2, Ir1-ir3, ir2-ir2, ir2-ir3 and ir3-ir3, are possible giving varying degrees of lightness. The lower end, where the eyes are of a lighter colour than the surrounding hair, are off-putting and undesirable. Striving for darker eyes should not be carried to extreme. Humphrey and Warner found a negative correlation between dark eye colour and intelligence. Pickett stated that light eyed dogs could see farther than their dark eyed companions. Should those findings be sustained and prove to be correct, breeding for darker eyes may be destroying the very essence of the breed, which is intelligence and alertness, for mercurial 'beauty'. And, if that did happened, neither would it be the first time the intelligence of a Utility Breed was sacrificed to a passing whim.

COAT LENGTH

As distinct from seasonal changes and changes in length and density in response to climatic locations, the length and density of the coat is, as one might expect, influenced by genetic control. When the coat is full and dense and of moderate length the gene in control is designated as, N = Normal coat. A recessive allele exists and so we have the permutation ;

N-N Normal length and density of coat.

N-n The recessive gene present will increase the length of hair in some areas.

n-n. Produces Long Coats.

There is good demand for Long Coats and they make handsome ornaments, if kept indoors and well groomed. The purpose of the breed leaves no room for ornaments, who would perish to death in foul weather. Breeding Long Coats should be avoid.

EAR CARRIAGE

The gene for erect ears, which we shall designate, P for pricked, is dominant over the allele, p. Hanging ears result when the genes are homogenous, p-p.

PAW CONFORMATION

Again, fortunately, the gene for arched paws is dominant over the allele which brings flat paws, referred to as 'hare foot'. Reference, Humphrey and Warner.

DENTAL PATTERN

Humphrey and Warner stated that the gene for correct dental pattern was dominant over the allele causing dental faults. Another fortunate event.

CRYPTORCHIDS

Crypto = concealed. A serious fault in male dogs where testicles are retained within the body. The condition may be single sided, with one testis retained, or double sided when both testes fail to descend. In the early stages of development the embryonic testes lie deep inside the foetus close to the prostate from where they voyage down, reeling out vas deferens behind them, to eventually drop out of the pelvis into the scrotum. The latter event may occur some months after birth.

It is not an 'accident of birth', but very definitely a heritable genetic defect caused by a recessive gene. Willis, very logically, suggests there are **two** separate genes involved, one on the right and the other on the left side. That adds up to two pairs, a pair for each testicle which we shall designate, Tr and Tl, for right and left dominant.

Tr-Tr	Tl-Tl	Dominant 100 %. No problem.
Tr-tr	tl-tl	Right side 'carrier'. Left side cryptorchid.
tr-tr	tl-tl	Double sided cryptorchid. Retention of both testes.

Usually the testes are down at eight weeks, although not the easiest things to find. When searching for them do remember you are dealing with very delicate tissue. Place a fingertip on either side of the penis and follow the body closely to the rear pushing the gonads into the scrotum, where their presence may be felt by the tip of the thumb.

There is a somewhat heightened risk of a retained testicle becoming carcinomas, but hardly so high as to make surgical removal imperative. A double sided crypto is unlikely to be fertile, since meiosis occurs at below body temperature and the testicles function better when they are a couple of degrees colder than the body.

Crypto dogs can mate and single sided cryptos certainly can sire litters, even though their sperm count may be low and so some **so called** breeders continue to use them at stud. There is no valid reason to justify this practise. Regardless of how noble they are owners of crypto dogs should not countenance their use at stud. Kennel Club registration should be denied to litters by such sires. Breeders knowingly using a crypto dog at stud should be liable at law for the fault in the progeny, as they had not 'exercised due diligence' at mating time in avoiding the fault being transmitted by using a faulty sire.

33 INBREEDING

There is wider divergence of opinions on inbreeding, than on any other aspect of animal husbandry. For some, inbreeding has proved the highway to success and for others it represents a morass, to be avoided like the plague. On which side does the truth lie? Is inbreeding good or bad? Deeply held convictions are rooted in ancient laws, which originated in Judea over 2,000 years ago, which severely censured marriage between closely related couples.

Historically there have been other societies, where the closest inbreeding occurred and was practised by the ruling families. Ancient Egyptians and the Incas of Peru come to mind. Empress Cleopatra's union with her brother, Ptolemy XIII, was the seventh generation of sibling marriages in the Egyptian royal family. Perhaps she was just marking time until Mark Anthony came along. More recently, close inbreeding, which equated to so-called 'line breeding' was operative for many generations among European royalty.

Inbreeding, even incestuous or closest inbreeding, occurs regularly in the wild and is one of the factors involved in the evolution of new species. Specific genes which produce certain distinct characteristics become homozygous and inalterable, within a particular group, setting that group apart from others to form a sub-species, or species.

At the inception of every man made breed there **has** to be inbreeding, to consolidate the characteristics being sought after. Inbreeding having set a certain number of genes in the homozygous state, for the general population, ensures they are transmitted unwaveringly, as a breed. The entire race horse population world-wide, which constitute the 'bloodstock industry' of today, is said to descend from a pair of Arab stallions (of course mares also had to be involved). At the outset that could not continue without close, if not closest, inbreeding.

A breeder of dogs need not feel constrained by laws, or public mores, when taking an objective look at the pros and cons of inbreeding. The founder of the GSD breed set out to establish a unified breed of high performance Utility Dogs, by selecting the finest dogs engaged in sheep herding that could be found, breeding them together and continuing to breed together the interrelated prog-

eny, **after** eliminating the undesirables. Little or no progress, towards the goal, could have been made without inbreeding, rigorous selection and elimination of the individuals who failed to measure up. When further admissions to registration, from the 'old stock' ceased, every dog in the breed became interrelated and inbred on, at least to some degree.

Presumably at Max's behest, the SV recognised inbreeding to the 6th degree. The decision was an arbitrary one. Another number, closer or wider, say 4th or 8th could have been adopted with equal justification. The SV regards 1st and 2nd degrees as; "Closest", 3rd and 4th degrees are, "Close", while 5th and 6th are, "Distant". Currently, inbreeding is shown to the 5th degree on SV pedigrees. Five generation pedigrees were once in vogue, but now 4 generation pedigrees are in use.

Where a relationship exists between a mating couple, a certain percentage of genes from their common ancestor encounter each other and pair off. That forms the extent of 'inbreeding'. In 1922 the American scientist, Sewell Wright, presented a formula in Algebra, to quantify the extent to which this happens, which he named, 'Inbreeding coefficients'. Much later, the eminent English geneticist, Malcolm Willis, presented a mathematical formula, a lot simpler for people like myself, who never had done Algebra.

Willis gave the following example, where dog A is a grandparent and great grandparent, while dog B is both a grandparent and great great grandparent;

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 2 + 3 - 1 & = & 4 \\ \text{Dog A } 1/2 & = 1/2 & = 1/16 = 0,0625 \text{ or } 6.25 \% \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 2 + 4 - 1 & = & 5 \\ \text{Dog B } 1/2 & = 1/2 & = 1/32 = 0.03125 \text{ or } 3.125 \% \end{array}$$

My own formula is as follows, number the ranks, from left to right on the pedigree 2, 4, 8, 16 and 32, which are the totals of names of dogs in each rank. Take the numbers where the ancestor inbred on occur and multiply one by the other. That yields the fraction coming from that source, through one parent. Add an equal fraction, to represent the contribution coming through the other parent. Convert the sum of the fractions to a percentage and Bingo!, the inbreeding coefficient materialises before your eyes.

Again using dogs A and B, as in the previous example;

Rank	2	4	8	16	32 ancestors
Dog A		4	x	8=32	$1/32 + 1/32 = 1/16 =$ 0.0625 or 6.25 %
Dog B		4	x	16=64	$1/64 + 1/64 = 1/32 =$ 0.03125 or 3.125 %

Total inbreeding on this pedigree is 9.375 %. That is the percentage of genes that are homozygous, having met 'chips off the old block'. Actually both dogs have contributed far more heavily to the genetic makeup. A much greater number of genes met strange partners. We will do the sums again, giving the ranks a value as a fraction of the number of dogs in them, to see the full contribution of genes made by both dogs ;

Dog A - $1/4 + 1/8 = 3/8 = 37.5\%$

Dog B - $1/4 + 1/16 = 5/16 = 31.25\%$

Although **not** the parents, dogs A and B together contribute a whopping 68.75 %, slightly over two thirds, of the total genes in this pairing. The cumulative effect of that in subsequent inbreeding among the progeny, **must not** be overlooked. It should be of the utmost concern to breeders engaging in so called, 'Line breeding'.

When two dogs are inbred on together, as in the examples given, with all their faults and virtues, the coefficients are increased and so will be the uncertainty over which dog to credit, or blame, where appropriate, for the excellencies, or faults which emerge.

Inbreeding is undoubtedly the quickest way to reach a goal when breeding animals and the closer to the left side of the pedigree it occurs the greater the inbreeding coefficients will be. The closest possible is on the parents, by mating siblings.

The best results are likely to accrue from "Closest" inbreeding when **only one** dog is inbred on, as grandparent on both sides. Here the inbreeding coefficients are as high as 12.5 %. Examples of excellent results achieved in this manner are, Quanto von der Wienerau VA and his best son, Lasso di Val Sole VA. The sire and dam of Quanto's dam, Yoda von der Wienerau, were both out of Dixie von der Wienerau and Lasso's dam, Sara vom Sonnenberg's parents were both sired by the good dog, Dago Schloss Dahlhausen VA. All of this is shown in Lasso's pedigree accompanying this chapter.

Pedigree of: LASSO di VAL SOLE SZ=1378829 VA. Breed German Shepherd Dog. Date of birth 30 April 1974. SEX Male. Koerung. Hermann Martin. 'Middle size, strong very type full, dry, firm male with high withers, good top line and somewhat short croup, very good angulation, good chest proportions, correct front and succession of steps with far outreaching gait with free fore stride and powerful rear push.

Sure personality, courage and combat drive pronounced. Wither height 63.5 cm. Chest 29 cm. Weight 33 kgs'.

Closest inbreeding highlighted.

		G.G.G.SIRE. CONDOR vom HOHENSTAMM VA 1
	G.G.SIRE.	CONDOR vom SCHNAPP
	G.G.G.DAM.	GILDE von der LILISRUH
GRANDSIRE.	CONDOR	vom ZOLLGRENZSCHUTZ HAUS VA 4
	G.G.G.SIRE.	VOLKER vom ZOLLGRENZSCHUTZ HAUS VA 1
	G.G.DAM.	CARMEN v. SIXTBERG
	G.G.G.DAM.	CARET v. ELFENHAIN
SIRE.	QUANTO von der WIENERAU	
	G.G.G.SIRE.	JALK vom FOHLENBRUNNEN VA 2
	G.G.SIRE.	LIDO von der WIENERAU
	G.G.G.DAM.	DIXIE von der WIENERAU
GRANDDAM.	YOGA von	der WIENERAU
	G.G.G.SIRE.	GELMO von der NEUZENLACHE
	G.G.DAM.	FRIGGA v. ASTERPLATZ
	G.G.G.DAM.	DIXIE von der WIENERAU
and	G.G.G. SIRE.	RAPS vom PIASTENDAMM
	G.G.SIRE.	DAGO vom SCHLOSS Dahlhausen VA 4
	G.G.G.DAM.	FANNY vom HAUS GOLDSCHMIED
GRANDSIRE.	VEUS von	der SILBERBUCH
	G.G.G.SIRE.	CHLODO v. KONIGSACKER
	G.G.DAM.	GINA von der SILBERBUCH
	G.G.G.DAM.	EDDA vom WALLENHOF
DAM.	SARA vom SONNENBERG	
	G.G.G.SIRE.	RAPS vom PIASTENDAMM
	G.G.SIRE.	DAGO vom SCHLOSS Dahlhausen VA 4
	G.G.G.DAM.	FANNY vom GOLDSCHMIED
GRANDDAM.	DOLLY vom SONNENBERG	
	G.G.G.SIRE.	EDO vom BUSECKER SCHLOSS
	G.G.DAM.	SARA vom RAT
	G.G.G.DAM.	HELGA vom RAT

Nature is ambivalent, for every positive there is a negative. With the gains there are losses and every breeder should acknowledge them, when planning matings. They are;

A) Manifestation of undesirable genes.

In recent times the causes of undesirable conditions among both animals and man have been traced to certain defective, or defect causing, recessive genes, which are sprinkled throughout the general population, but only manifest their presence when they encounter an identical partner, at fertilisation. Such a gene can be passed through very many generations undetected, while restrained or suppressed by a dominant partner. Inbreeding, in a family with a defective gene, greatly increases the mathematical chances of that defective recessive gene encountering another similar recessive gene and in unison, by producing the fault, or weakness, they are capable of they manifest their presence. A breeder might be tempted to use close inbreeding to eradicate some undesirable factor, shall we say Long Coats, but is unlikely to succeed because, for every Long Coat animal that will emerge **two** others, 'carriers' of the recessive gene, will go undetected.

B) Reduction of genetic variation.

Nature, like the universe, revels in disorder. In many species there are far more genes, than fit into any one individual. Many chromosomal loci, or roosts, have series of alleles which can perch there, but not all at the one time as only two can fit. This lends to variety, within the species, and the possibility of forming sub species. Inbreeding, for a specific factor, increases the number of genetic pairings which become homozygous, at the expense of the alternative alleles and good genetic material may be irretrievably lost.

The effects of reduction of genetic variation can be dramatically illustrated by the post World War 2 situation. Lex Preussenblut VA was about the only good dog left alive. His fault was in his croup. There was so much inbreeding on his R Osnabrucker Land litter and his other descendants that the genes for his fault virtually became 'fixed' for the breed.

The reduction of genetic variation is much less spectacular than the manifestation of undesirable genes. An accumulative process can go undetected and build insidiously to the point of no return.

Breeders engaging in so called 'line breeding', which is nothing more, or less, than repeatedly inbreeding "distant" related animals, may be lulled into a false sense of security and overlook the con-

centrations that are occurring, through a sort of distillation process.

C) Inbreeding depression.

Accumulation of negative forces affects ;

1. Reduces fertility, smaller litters, more misses after matings, more miscarriages.
2. Lowers overall vitality. Some recessive genes are lethal when homozygous.
3. Lowered resistance to disease. Animals become ill easier and oftener.
4. Average life expectancy shortened.
5. 'Spirit', or the will to live, becomes depressed.

There are two theories, Dominance and Over Dominance, on how these conditions come about, which we need not go further into than to acknowledge that the risks which have been outlined above do exist.

Sometimes these conditions are referred to as, 'Over breeding', a name for the affects of inbreeding. In the relentless pursuit of objectives, like leaner meat, higher milk yield, increased egg laying, or the exclusion of very dark dogs, as happened on the show scene in Germany in the seventies, the inescapable consequences yoked in tandem, may well bring deterioration in another direction, resulting in lower fertility, vitality and resistance to disease, lower intelligence and trainability, etc..

An experiment, on ranch mink, was conducted in Sweden during the 60's, to study closest inbreeding. Siblings were mated and siblings from those matings were mated in turn. The experiment was abandoned after the third generation, because of lack of research material. The average litter size had shrunk from 3.5 to 0.5.

The performance of German Shepherd Dogs, in utility service, is endangered by breeding **exclusively** for 'beauty' in the show ring. Breeders sacrificing working ability for 'beauty', are breeding contrary to the SV Breed Standard and Regulations.

A person engaging in breeding animals, without a knowledge of Mendel's Laws of Inheritance, or at least some knowledge of genetics, is less well prepared than a farmer who knows nothing about soils and seeds. As for inbreeding, intrinsically it is neither good, nor bad, it is but a tool in the hands of the breeder and its use, like that of any other tool, is likely to reflect the skill, or lack of it, of the operator.

Inbreeding is capable of producing a masterpiece, or a monstrosity. It all depends on the creativity and relative skill of the breeder, as the artist, for in every sense inbreeding is a relative matter.

34 THE BREED STANDARD

In accordance with the regulations of the *Verein fuer Deutsche Schaeferbunde*, Augsburg, affiliated to the VDH, (Association of German dog clubs), as the founder society of the breed with responsibility for the Breed Standard of the German Shepherd Dog, adopted at the first general meeting of the members in Frankfurt on Main, on the 20th September 1899, from draft proposals submitted by A. Meyer and von Stephanitz, augmented at the VI general meeting on the 28th July 1901, the XXIII general meeting in Cologne, on the 17th September 1909, the executive - and advisory committee sitting in Wiesbaden, on the 5th of September 1930, the executive committee and breed sub-committee sitting on the 25th March 1961, and in the framework of the World Union of Societies for German Shepherd Dogs-WUSV-revised and ratified at the WUSV conference on the 30th August.

The German Shepherd Dog, whose planned breeding was begun in 1899 after the society was founded, is bred out of herding dogs that were available in central and southern Germany with the aim, to produce a Utility Dog of high performance talents, to attain this goal, the Breed Standard of the German Shepherd Dog was set down, as well as the physical aspects, also the nature and character are drawn.

1. GENERAL APPEARANCE.

The German Shepherd Dog is middle size, the wither height as the height of the skeleton is measured with a measuring stick with the hair depressed, and must pass the elbow of the dog in a steady vertical line from the withers to the ground. The ideal wither height is 62.5 cm for dogs and 57.5 for bitches. A variation of 2.5 cm up or down is allowed. Further upwards, as also falling below the minimum height reduce the utility - and breed value.

The German Shepherd Dog is slightly stretched, strong and well muscled, his bones are dry and his sinews firm. The proportions of height to length and position and placement of the limbs (angulation) are so inter-related that a far room reaching, enduring gait is afforded. He has a weather resistant coat of hair.

A pleasing appearance is to be aimed at, but through that the utility efficiency of the dog must never be put in question.

The sex characteristics must be pronounced, the masculinity of the dog and the femininity of the bitch must be unmistakable.

A German Shepherd Dog embodying the breed picture presents to the onlooker a picture of intrinsic strength, intelligence and agility, in harmonious proportions, nothing too much and nothing too little. The way he moves and behaves must clearly show, that here a sound mind resides in a sound body and these physical and mental capabilities enable him at any time to acquit himself as a Utility Dog with great endurance.

Only a qualified person is capable of establishing the presence of the requisite Utility Dog disposition in German Shepherd Dogs. Therefore only special judges shall be engaged, who shall be obliged, to test the dogs presented before them for character and sensitivity to gunfire and they may only award the breed qualification, V. (Excellent), to dogs who have received a recognised training qualification.

Having an effervescent temperament, he must be tractable, adapt to each situation and carry out his work willingly and with delight. He must show courage and hardiness, if need be, to protect his owner or his owner's property. He must also joyously set to, if his handler wishes this, he must be attentive, obedient and a pleasant house companion, at peace in his own neighbourhood, above all with children and other animals and impartial encountering people. All in all a picture of harmonious natural nobility and self-assurance.

2. ANGULATION AND GAIT WORK

The German Shepherd Dog is a trotter. His gait work runs in a diagonal succession of footsteps, i.e., he always sets the hind in the opposite direction to the foreleg. His limbs must therefore be so inter-related, that is angulated, that without noticeable alteration to the top line he can move forward his hind paws to the middle point of his body, and can so exactly reach forward with the forepaws. Every tendency to over angulation of the hind leg reduces the fitness and endurance. With correct proportions of height to length and complimentary length of leg bones results in room winning gait work that runs flat over the ground, giving the impression of effortless forward movement. With

the head thrust forward, the tail slightly raised a balanced and smooth trotter presents from the ears over the neck and back to the tip of the tail a gently undulating straight top line.

3. PERSONALITY CHARACTERISTICS AND TALENT

Firm nerves, attentiveness, impartiality, controllable, watchful, faithful and incorruptible, also courageous; combat motivation and hardness are the outstanding characteristics of a pure-bred German Shepherd Dog. In excellent manner they make the universal Utility Dog, especially suited to watch dog, companion dog, protection dog and herding dog. His scenting capability, combined with his trotting build, enables him, without physical strain to keep the nose close to the ground, quietly and surely working out tracks, making him in the highest measure, a tracking and search dog for a variety of purposes.

4. HEAD

Proportionate to the size of body (in length app. 40 % of the wither height), not heavy, too fine or elongated. In overall appearance dry, moderately broad between the ears. Viewed from the front or side the forehead is only slightly domed, with none or just a slightly indented middle furrow.

Jowls. Smoothly rounded, without protrusion to the front.

Skull. Approximately 50 % of the overall length of the head, as seen from above, from the ears to the base of the nose, proportions about equal and running into a sloped, not sharply pronounced forehead stop, again viewed from above, running over the long and dry wedge-shaped snout part (upper jaw and lower jaw must be strongly developed). The width of the skull shall approximate the length of the skull, with males a little broader and with females a little narrower is not to be faulted. The muzzle is strong, the lips tight, dry and well closed. The entire ridge of the nose should run in line close to that of the forehead.

5. TEETH

Must be sound, strong and complete (42 teeth, 20 in the upper - and 22 in the lower jaw). The German Shepherd Dog has a shearing bite, that is, the incisor teeth must engage each other in shearing fashion, whereby the incisor teeth of the lower jaw cut against the incisor teeth of the upper jaw. Under- and overshot and level bites are faulty, as

also large gaps between the teeth. Also faulty is a straight bite, when the incisor teeth close in a straight line across.

The jaws must be well developed, so that the teeth are deeply embedded in the gums.

6. EARS

Middle-sized, broad at base, set high, they are carried erect (equalised and not drawn inwards) and tapered to points with the mussel shaped openings positioned to the front. Tipped ears, cropped ears and hanging ears are to be rejected. A considerable detraction from the breed picture are inward drawn ears. Pups and young dogs during the exchange of teeth, up to six months, occasionally somewhat longer, let the ears hang or draw them inwards. This is not a fault.

7. EYES

Middle size, almond shaped, lying somewhat slanting and not protruding. The colour should match the colour of the hair, dark as possible. They show a lively, intelligent and self assured expression.

8. NECK

Strong, with well developed muscles without loose skin at the throat. It is carried at an angle of 45 degrees to the horizontal, raised when aroused and lowered when trotting.

9. BODY

The length of the body must exceed the height at the withers. It should be from 110 to 117 per cent of the wither height. Short, square and high legged dogs are undesirable.

Chest. Deep (about 45 to 48 percent of the height at the withers) but not too broad. Lower chest, as long and pronounced as possible.

Ribs. Well formed and long, neither rounded or too flat and extending to the breastbone, taking it to the elbows. A correctly formed ribcage affords freedom of movement for the elbows, when the dog is trotting. A too round ribcage will cause disturbance and turning out of the elbows. A too flat ribcage causes a drawing in of the elbows, the ribcage should appear to reach far to the rear, so that the loins are proportionately short.

Belly. Slightly tucked up.

Back, including loins, straight and strongly developed. From withers to croup not too long. The withers must be long and high enough, well defined from the back, to which it must join

smoothly, without breaking the top line, sloping gently from the front to the rear.

Loins. Broad, strong and well muscled.

Croup. Long and sloping gently (about 23 degrees). The ilium and sacrum bones form the foundation. Short, steep and level croups are undesirable.

10. TAIL

Bushy haired, at minimum it must reach the hock joint and may not be carried beyond the middle of the hock. Sometimes it forms on the end an undesirable sideways hook. At ease it is carried in a gentle curve, when aroused it is raised and the curve accentuated. However this shall not go beyond the vertical. The tail may not be laid straight, or curled, over the back. In movement the tail must not be carried raised above the horizontal.

Artificially improved tails are not allowed.

11. FOREQUARTERS

Shoulder. Long, placed sloping (around 45 degrees) and lying flat. The upper arm joins it at right angles. Like the shoulder it must be strong and well muscled.

Forearm. From all sides must appear straight. The bones of the upper arm and forearm are more oval than round.

Pasterns. Firm but not too steep (about 20 degrees off the perpendicular), but also not yielding.

Elbows. Neither turned out or drawn in. In length the leg (55 %) shall exceed the depth of chest (45 %).

12. HINDQUARTERS

Thigh. Broad with strong muscles. Upper thigh, viewed from the side, sloping to the only slightly longer lower thigh, which it joins at an angle of about 120 degrees. The angulation should complement the angulation of the foreleg, without over angulation.

Hocks. Strong and firm. The hock is strong and forms with the lower thigh a firm hock joint. In total the hind legs must be strong and well muscled, for it is with them the body of the dog is tirelessly propelled forward in movement.

13. PAWS

Rounded, well closed and arched.

Pads. Very hard, but not brittle.

Claws. Short and strong, dark in colour.

Wolf or dew claws. Sometimes found on the hind legs and should be removed in the first days after birth.

14. COLOUR

Black with proportional brown, yellow or grey markings, also with black saddle, dark clouded (dark overlay on grey or light brown base, with matching paler markings), all black, all grey, or with pale or brown marking. Small white marks on the chest or very pale inner sides of legs are allowed, but not desirable. The nose must be black in all colour schemes (dogs with little or no masks, with yellow eyes or strikingly pale eyes, pale marks on chest and inner sides of legs, also whitish claws and red tail tip, or washed out faint colours, add up to colour paling). The base coat of underwool, black dogs excepted, is always light grey coloured. The ultimate colouring of the pup can only be decided when the guard hair comes through.

15. COAT

a). THE NORMAL COATED GSD. Guard hair dense as possible. The individual hairs lying straight, stiff and firm. Short on the head including the insides of the ears, front sides of the legs, paws and toes. Longer and starker haired on the neck. On the backs of the legs, fore and hind, down to the pasterns and hocks, the hair is lengthy, forming moderate trousers on the thighs. There are various lengths of hair, as a result many intermediate types of the various hair lengths are found. Too short, moleskin like, coats are faulty.

b). THE LONG NORMAL COATED GSD. The individual hairs are longer, not always straightened, above all not lying close to the body. Especially on the insides of the ears, on the backs of forearms and mostly in the region of the loins the hairs are considerably longer, they form tufts in the ears and bunting from the elbows to the pasterns. Long normal coat is not as weatherproof as normal coat and so is undesirable, with sufficient underwool however, so far as the breed regulations of the country allow, is acceptable for breeding. Long normal coated GSDs are frequently found to have narrow chests, and small elongated muzzle formations.

c). THE LONG COATED GSD. The hair is considerably longer than with the long normal coated dog, mostly very weak and dividing as a rule along the back. Underwool is only in the region of the loins or not present at all. With long coated GSDs the weather resistance and also the utility fitness are

greatly reduced. For those reasons long coats are undesired.

16. FAULTS

All utility, endurance and performance capability influencing deficiencies especially sex characteristics and Shepherd Dog personality, like insufficiency, weak nerves or excitability, shyness, lacking vitality and willingness for work, monorchidism or cryptorchidism and testicles too small; weak or spongy constitution and lack of substance ; excessive colour paling ; whites, albino dogs (cockroach entirely lacking pigment, with red nose, and so forth), whites (close to and pure white dogs with black noses). Oversized and undersized, poorly shaped, high legged and dogs overloaded on the forelegs. body length too short, build too light or too heavy, weak back, steep position of the limbs

and all roominess and endurance defects in gait work harmony. Too short, stumpy tail, pointed or elongated powerless muzzle. Overshot or undershot or faults of bite, namely weak or level bite. Too soft, too short or too long coats and defective base hair (underwool). Hanging and constantly badly carried ears, supported ears. Rolled, curled, or in general a tail badly carried, supported tail (docked tail), congenital short tail.

The above standard was lodged with the FCI and accepted and is binding on the countries and societies of the FCI.

The name of the breed is German Shepherd Dog. The country of origin is Germany.

Federation Cynologique Internationale (FCI)

General secretary Jean Catzenstein

Translation by Martin Cotter.

35 TEETH

The dental pattern of the German Shepherd Dog is regarded with great importance and described in detail in the Breed Standard. Dogs are penalised quite harshly when being breed surveyed, and also in the show ring, when presented with scarcely noticeable shortcomings. Intending exhibitors are advised to carry out a detailed examination of their exhibit's teeth, to avoid the chagrin of first learning of a defect from the judge, or breed survey assessor.

What to look for. 'Undershot', is when the incisors of the lower jaw are forward of the upper incisors. A very major fault. 'Overshot', is when the incisors of the lower jaw fail to reach those of the upper jaw and leave a space, more than the thickness of a matchstick. Both shall be rejected and their progeny banned from registration. A dog with 'level bite', where the tops only of the teeth engage, may be classified Koerklasse II = Breed Survey Class 2. Discoloration of the teeth will also land a dog in Koerklasse II. Influence of dental faults on SV show awards are as follows;

- VA Koerklasse I, Vorzuglich Auslese requires faultless dentition, no doubled teeth.
- V Koerklasse I, Vorzuglich requires faultless bite, a doubled premolar 1 is allowed.
- SG Koerklasse II Sehr Gut. One missing premolar 1, or one missing incisor allowed.
- G Koerklasse II Gut. Two missing premolars 1, or one premolar 1 and one incisor, or one missing premolar 2 are accepted.

(Koerklasse I & II = Breed Survey 1 & 2. Vorzuglich Auslese = Excellent Select.)

The GSD, in common with many other mammals, will develop two sets of teeth in a lifetime. The first, a temporary set of 28, are called the milk teeth. The second set of permanent teeth should add up to 42 in total.

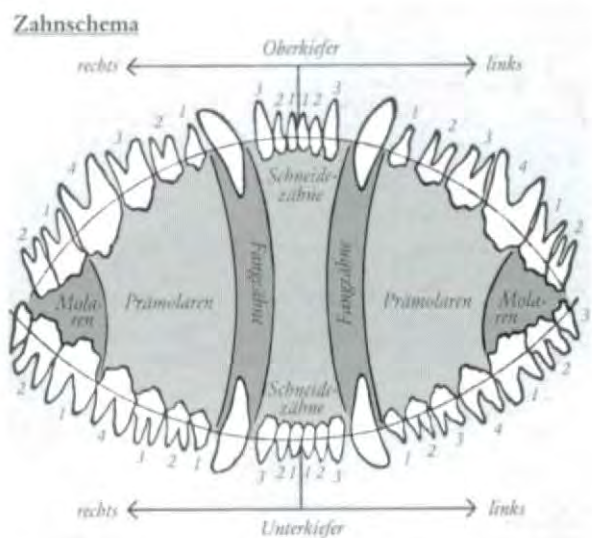
The puppy is born toothless, although development of the dental pattern is well under way, having started in the foetus during the 2nd week. The lower six incisors push up during the 3rd week followed by the six incisors of the upper jaw. About the 4th week the four fang, or canine, teeth protrude and finally twelve premolars, three left and right, on both upper and lower jaws. Total milk teeth 28.

The exchange of milk teeth for permanent teeth occurs mainly between the age of three and five months. The first set blacken and drop out one by one. When replacement is complete the four jaws, upper, lower, left and right, should have a formula like this;

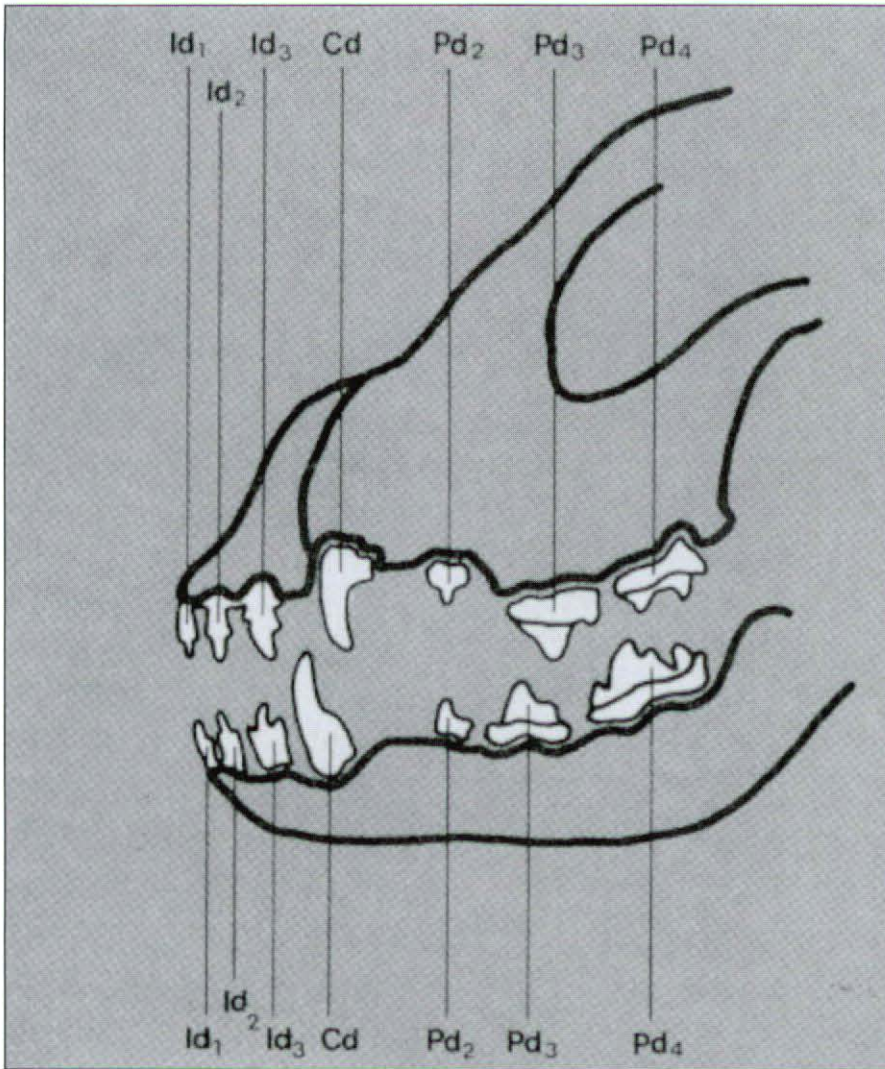
upper	lower
3 incisors	3 incisors
+ 1 canine	+ 1 canine
+ 4 premolars	+ 4 premolars
+ 2 molars	+ 3 molars
= 10 X 2 = 20 +	= 11 X 2 = 22 = 42.

Generally the upper 6 premolars and molars fit over the lower 7 premolars and molars like stacked wine barrels. Bearing that in mind it is easier to spot where a premolar 1 is missing, which can then be confirmed by counting the lot.

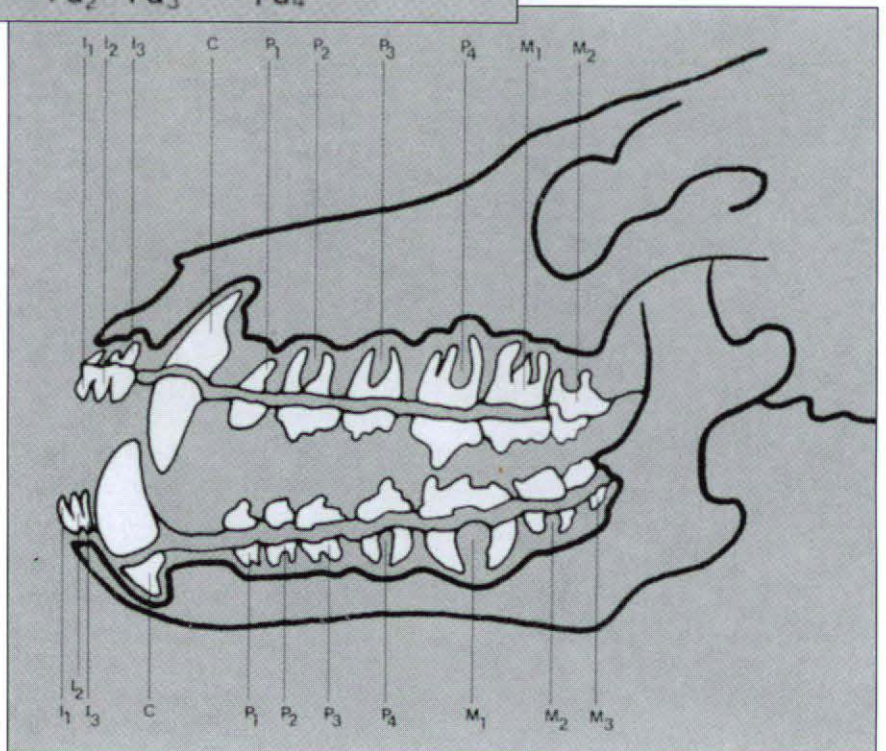
The dog's teeth are a tool kit for different uses. The four large canine teeth grip prey securely and tear flesh apart. The incisors snip off meat, especially close to the bone. Premolars are used for gnawing with the side of the mouth. The carnassials, upper premolar 4 and lower molar 1, mesh in a manner that is specialised for severing and mincing meat.



a. Canine dental chart

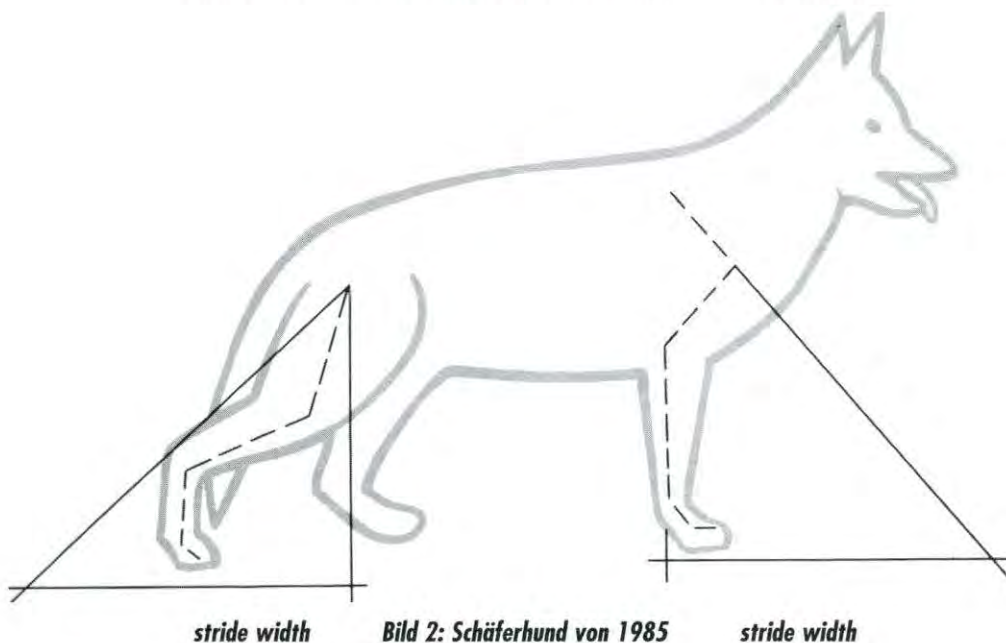
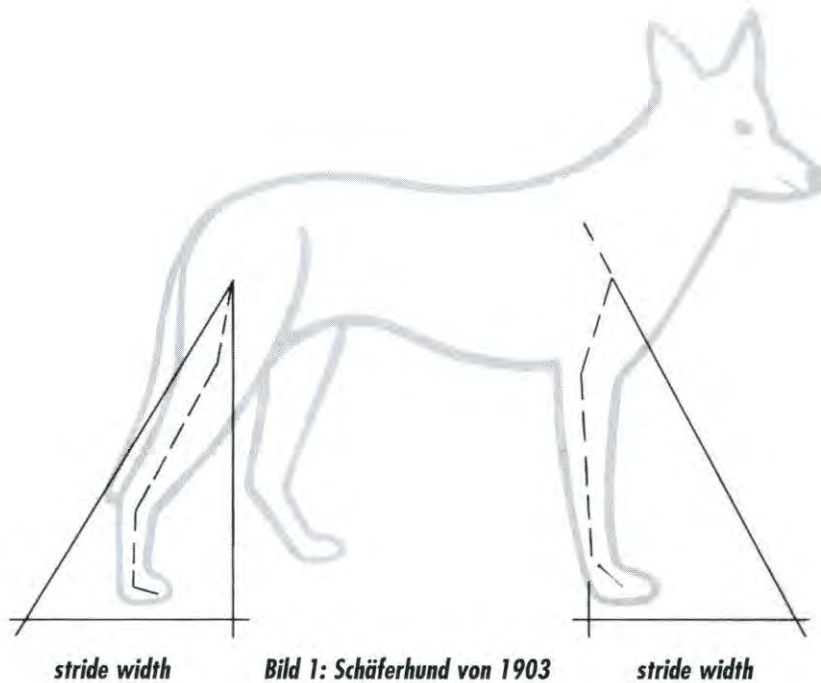


b. Puppy 'milk teeth', around 6 weeks



c. Permanent teeth at around 6 months

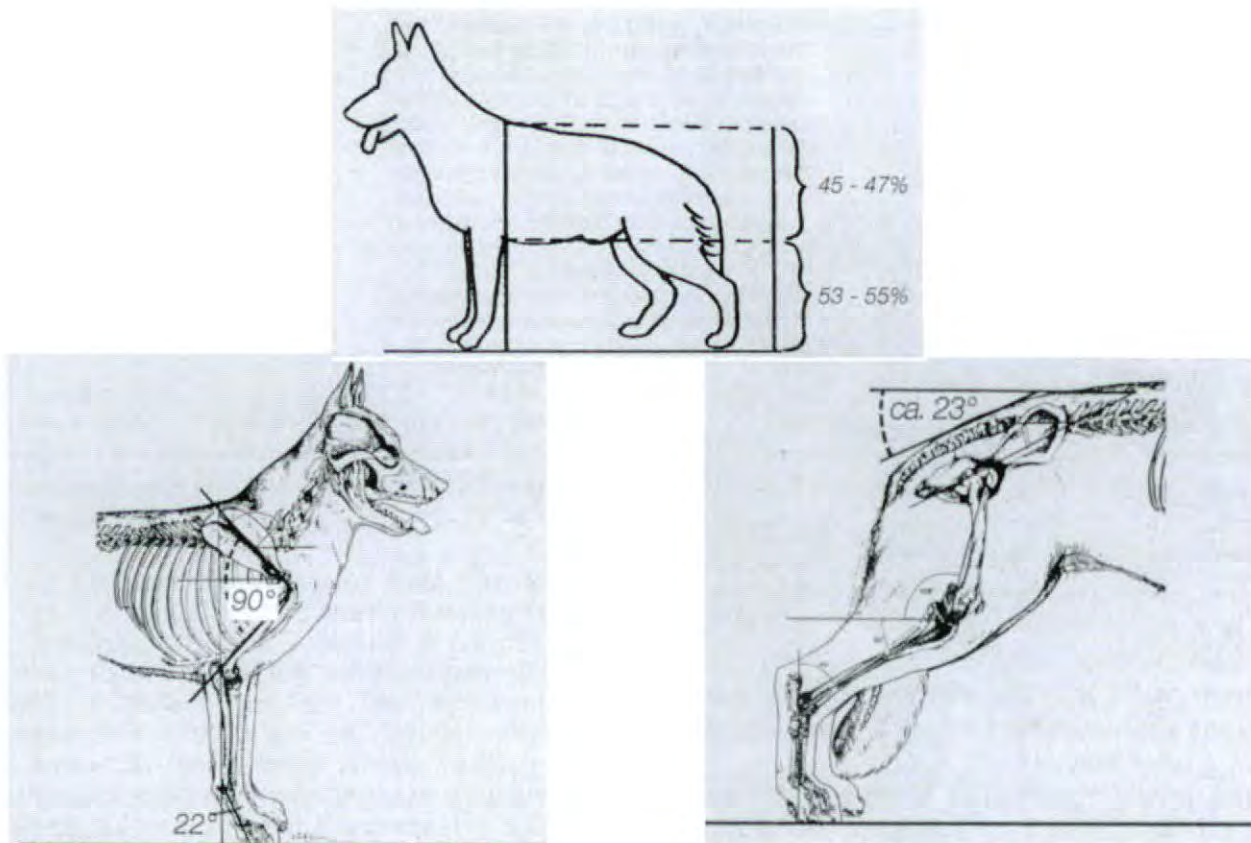
36 ANATOMY



Illustrations a. and b. are outlines of the anatomy then and now and serve to demonstrate the tremendous improvement made, by striving for the ideals set down in 1899. The improvement in anatomy has vastly improved the performance and endurance capabilities of our present day dogs, something for which we owe a heartfelt vote of thanks to the generations of dedicated breeders who have gone before us.

The SV approved measuring stick has two sets of measurements, in centimetres, which can measure three dimensions of the dog. Stood vertically, behind the fore paws, from the inside of the sliding bar, to the outside of the fixed bar, yields the height of the dog. In the same position, from the inside of the sliding bar to the **inside** of the fixed bar, reveals the depth of chest.

When held horizontally, from the prosternum to



tuberosity of ischium, again from inside the sliding bar to inside the fixed bar, will ascertain the length of the body.

The Breed Standard draws a very detailed word picture of the GSD. Most publications, SV included, devote space to illustrating faults. A negative exercise and sheer waste of space, in my opinion, especially if the viewer is unaware of what constitutes the ultimate goal, to be striven for. As a picture can convey a thousand words, my advice is to get hold of a photo of a very good dog, like Quando von Arminius, with near perfect anatomy and study it until the outline is etched on the brain, after that a mere glance at a dog will tell you how far that dog's anatomy falls short of the desirable.

When assessing the anatomy of a dog, don't rely entirely on a visual appraisal. A heavy coat of hair can help conceal structural shortcomings. 'Seeing is believing, but feeling is the naked truth'. Take a 'hands on' approach and get to grips with the dog. Close your eyes, or look away, as you run the hands over the croup, from the crest of the ilium down to the tuberosity of the ischium, on both sides, checking the slope, which is greater than that of the croup (=22 - 23 degrees from the horizontal) and closer to 45 degrees. Check how

well the femurs plane in, with the points given, for a fairly reliable indicator of HD. Then around the ribcage, checking for that shape which slightly approximates a rugby ball. Across the top of the withers, to feel how close the shoulder blades match the thorax vertebrae. Then down the ridges of the shoulder blades, checking the slope, to the point which can be most deceptive, finding out how far the joints of shoulders and upper arms fall shy of the prosternum, resulting in poor shoulder angulation.

The position in which canines carry their tails is an indicator of each individual's self-esteem. In wolf packs it denotes the social rank of the members and at group meetings the boss wolf, the leader of the pack, carries his tail as erect as a flag pole. Many exuberant male dogs, when aroused while walking, will raise their tails quite high, but in a fast trot the tail drifts out to the rear, just below the horizontal, counterbalancing the head and acting as a rudder forming an integral part of the balancing and steering mechanism of the dog. Relaxed, the tail of a confident dog hangs at the hocks, with a gentle sabre curve carrying the tip away. Spiritless, bullied and browbeaten dogs, who have low self-esteem, tuck their tails between their legs.

37 LOCOMOTION

The dictionary defines movement as; “The act, process or result of moving. The manner of moving”. Which doesn’t make us much the wiser about how the German Shepherd Dog accomplishes locomotion with such skill and accomplishment.

We are not analysing the dictionary meaning of ‘movement’, but it is worth knowing why ‘movement’ is so important and receives so much space in the Breed Standard and in time spent on evaluating GSDs. To start with, the breed was, is and **must remain**, a Herding Dog breed. A Shepherd Dog, in the course of the day, tending a flock of sheep, may cover from 20 to 30 kilometres and many of the services currently employing GSDs require dogs that are both fast and sure when running and jumping.



Ambling

When moving, the German Shepherd Dog employs three modes, which can be equated to gear ratios in the automobile. They are, walking or ambling, trotting and galloping. Walking is done at a slow pace, usually when there is no particular place to go, or when restricted by the leash. The dog is said to be ambling along when he moves both legs, on the same side, forward simultaneously. Galloping is employed when exuberant, or a reason exists to cover ground very rapidly. The whole body is heaved forwards, by the hind legs, in a succession of leaps, which soon become tiring. The most favoured mode of locomotion by the dog, and also favoured by his ancient ancestor, the wolf, is trotting. Trotting could be described as ‘cruising gear’ for the dog, for by that process the greatest distance can be covered, in a reasonably fast time, with the least consumption of energy.

When trotting, the dog moves the right foreleg and left hind leg forward and in a quick interchange moves forward the left fore and right hind. In a well

proportioned dog the centre of gravity remains remarkably constant, without tiring oscillations from side to side, in steady forward motion, like a cyclist good at maintaining balance. Upright balance is maintained by the brain, which is constantly informed of the true perpendicular position by otoliths. Nature has provided all vertebrates with this system, even fishes need them to swim ‘sunny side up’. Otoliths are loose granules of calcium carbonate rolling in hemispherical chambers located in the inner ears. At each tilt of the head they roll in response to earth’s gravity and activate tiny sensory hairs linked to nerves which relay the position of the granules to the brain. Through the central nervous system the brain sends signals to the muscles to take the necessary corrective action in maintaining an upright position. When the dog is trotting the polarity of the mental impulses switches rapidly, like alternating current, to the two legs which happen to be supporting the body at that particular instant. The paths to the opposing poles (legs) intersect like the letter, X. It is not by chance that the intersection, in a smoothly trotting GSD is quite close to the centre of gravity. The result is a fluency of movement which is poetry in motion to behold.

The side gait of the GSD, that is viewed by the onlooker as the dog is passing, has fascinated tens of thousands and allured them to the breed. In a fleeting movement, the legs nearest appear to move apart and then draw together. This is something of an optical illusion, for only one leg is being moved forward, while the other paw rests firmly on the ground. Now let’s try and work out how the dog’s leg work creates this impression.

Looked at from a structural engineering viewpoint, the skeleton of the dog is the structural (bone for steel) framework to support the cladding and as a structure presents a span and a half of a suspension bridge, supported on four piers, resting firmly on the pair at the rear and slung between the pair in front and cantilevered forward to the head, the lot held together by an arrangement of cables (muscles and sinews) to support the span and a half and permit sway and undulation, without the structure losing cohesion.

The mechanical engineering specification of the GSD would be something like this, twin axle vehicle with the power unit in the rear, power transmission by reciprocating connection rods. Very

much in accordance with the spec for the Volkswagen Beetle. Indeed one could say the same about the GSD as the brilliant German car designer, Ferdinand Porsche, said to a smiling Fuehrer, when demonstrating the prototype model of the vehicle which became Hitler's 'People's car', "*Die Kraft in der Hinter ist*".

The muscles which activate the limbs, to cause locomotion and maintain balance in an upright position, are termed antagonistic, because some pull the limb, or part of it, in one direction and another group move it in the opposite direction.

The dog pushes his entire body forwards by muscular activation of the hind legs, in swinging strides of the whole limb pivoting on the ball and socket universal hip joint. When load bearing, as the opposite leg strides forward, the leg must retract and then extend, by folding and unfolding at the stifle = knee and hock = ankle, to keep the point of axis, the hip joint, constantly on a level plane of forward movement. Powered by powerful thigh muscles the leg makes repeated swings as a pendulum, swinging from the hip joint. The vital importance of hip joints in locomotion and springing and leaping is worth bearing in mind, relative to Hip Dysplasia.

Taking a vertical line from the hip joint to the ground, as the starting and ending point of a complete stride, it is then easily divided into four actions, which have more than a slight comparison with the 4 strokes of a piston in the internal combustion engine. Coming through the vertical line the hind leg is swung forward by anterior muscles of the upper thigh, while those on the back of the thigh and the calf are relaxing, allowing the leg to fold neatly at the knee and hock joint. The toes are trailing on the upturned paw, a position that saves them from stubbing on rocks, or getting entangled in vegetation. As the forward swing progresses the leg begins to extend, straightening at the knee and hock joint, to form a fully extended limb running almost in a straight line from the hip joint to the paw so as to gain the maximum reach forward. When that point is reached the limp paw is activated. A tug on the sinews by the toes extensor muscle spreads the toes and extends them under the fore paw, which is flying off the ground, the fore-leg having attained its maximum rearward reach. When the paw of the hind leg touches the ground it has completed the 'induction stroke'. The same stroke in the piston engine draws air and fuel into the cylinder. Weight is then transferred to that paw, as the opposite paw, now far behind, leaves the ground and starts its swing forward. The muscles of

the leg placed forward and now supporting the rear end of the dog, must allow the leg shorten, by folding at the knee and hock, to allow the hip joint and pelvis to pass overhead without noticeable upwards thrust. The folding of one on the other, the thigh, lower thigh and hock, is a build up for a release of energy in the next stroke, so this is the 'compression stroke'.

As the 'vertical line' goes ahead of the paw on the ground, powerful thigh muscles bring the lower thigh into alignment, while calf muscles, by activating the Achilles tendon, exert tremendous power on the paw, operating the hock as a rocker arm over a fulcrum. Remember what Archimedes said about a fulcrum ?. This action is equalled by reaction, which propels the dog forward and is frequently recorded in German reports, included on pedigrees as, *Kraftig Nachschub*. Strong rear thrust. This is the 'power stroke'.

Reaching the fullest extension rearwards, the paw rises on the toes, then breaks contact with the ground. The muscles which powered the stroke go limp and relax. As the toes lose contact the paw flips over and the pads face upward. With the toes trailing, the paw bent back and tucked up on the tarsus, the anterior muscles of the upper thigh swing the relaxed limb forward, pivoting on the hip joint. When the limb reaches the 'vertical line' it has completed a full cycle, with this, the 'exhaust stroke'. And so it goes on, stride after stride, in powerful, seemingly effortless, forward propulsion.

The impetus imparted by the piston-like action of the hind legs is carried forward along the back. As the linkage between the pelvis and the ribcage is no more than segmented spinal vertebrae, it must be stressed, the shorter the back and the stronger the loin muscles, the better. Overall, from the croup to the neck, the topline climbs at about 10 to 25 degrees, in stance. Moving off, the head is lowered and the body dropped slightly, to afford front reach, bringing the tops of the head, withers and croup to about level. If the dog is constructed low at front, with short upper arms, or has weak pasterns, or wrists, if you like, which lower the front end below that level, then the power coming from the rear bears down on them increasing the load on the forelegs, which is bound to become tiring.

When painting a landscape, the artist strikes a line, as the horizon, about one third of the way up from the bottom of the canvas. Above that is silhouetted against the sky. It might be helpful, when assessing a GSD in the show stance, to visualise this horizon. In a well, even not so well, proportioned



Galloping

dog this line will pass from the point of the prosternum to the tuberosity of ischium, the 'sit upon' bone, these points are used when measuring the length of the dog. Most things, face, topline of neck, shoulder blade and upperarm should all lie at 45 % and the croup at half that, 22-23 degrees from this imaginary line. When the construction and proportions of the dog are correct the thrust from the rear lifts and carries some of the weight off the forelegs, allowing them to operate more freely, almost free-wheeling along, conducive to an effortless enduring gait. While the hind legs are in action, thrusting the dog forward, the forelegs must move forward in unison, keeping their end up.

When the muscles of a hind leg are flexed, thrusting the dog forward, the foreleg diagonally across from it, must make an involuntary movement, to a new forward position. While this foreleg is being moved forward its counterpart, while supporting the weight, is overrun by the forward moving torso. To remain in support the leg must extend, by opening the angles at shoulder, elbow and pastern. When the dog gets into full stride the shoulder blade is also rotated and drawn backwards, lengthening the stride and building torsion, like winding a spring, on the web of muscles attaching it to the torso.

Ferdie Porsche would have revelled in the "torsion sprung technique", in the construction of the GSD shoulder. It is worth mentioning here the importance of 'pronounced withers' = *ausgepraegt widerrist*. Higher spines on the thorax vertebrae afford greater areas for muscle attachment, which increases stability in movement, through better suspension of the limb.

As the forward reaching paw strikes the ground and accepts the weight the paw on the other foreleg, now extended fully to the rear, rises on the toes and losing contact with the ground, flips over, pads



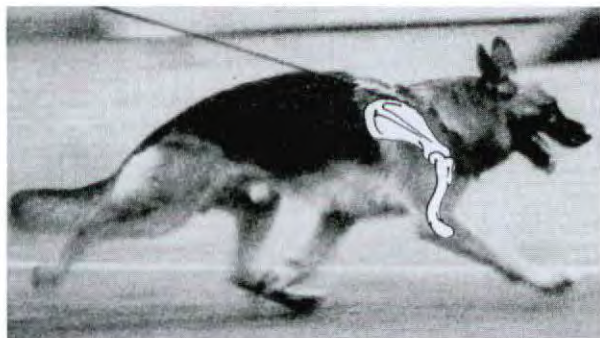
curling face upward on the pastern, getting out of the way, just ahead of the paw of the following hind leg, that is being thrust under it.

Slackening of the muscles allows the limb to shorten, by folding, preparing for a stride forward. On losing contact with the ground, torsion building up on the shoulder muscles snaps and the shoulder blade springs forward, imparting impetus to the limb, flinging it forward effortlessly. The paw remains tucked up with the toes trailing, just like the hind paw, while it is moving forward, with relaxed muscles permitting sufficient ground clearance. As the swing forward nears completion the impetus, imparted from the shoulder, unfolds the upperarm, the forearm and then goes into the paw, rotating it forward on the pastern, with the toes spread bringing it to the point of maximum forward reach and with the landing gear, the pads face down, ready for touchdown.

The shoulder blade, in its web of muscles, has shifted forward and the angulation at shoulder and elbow are increased to the maximum, bringing the sections they link, shoulder blade, upper arm, forearm and pastern, into near enough a straight line, which gives the maximum reach possible when all sections are of optimum length and correctly angled, one to the other. The transfer of weight is accepted and the foreleg begins to shorten overall, like a compressed accordion, to facilitate the body moving forward overhead, without tiresome up and down jolting. In addition to damping down jolting the shoulder muscles help in co-ordinating balance over rough ground. Once the 'vertical line' goes ahead of the supporting limb that limb must start extending again.

The greatest outreach = *ausgreif* and free stepping = *freiem Vortritt*, is only possible when the bones are the correct proportions and the shoulder blade is angled correctly. Steep shoulder blades

seriously restrict outreach. The dog may overcome that, to some extent, but the gait lacks fluency and becomes tiring sooner, rather than later.

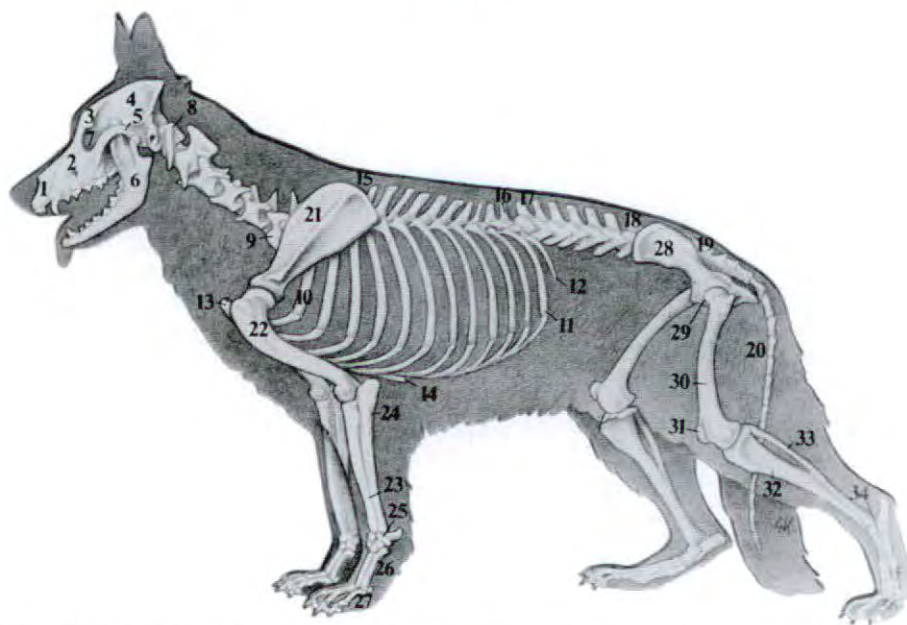


Shoulder action

Some years ago a controversy arose in the US, whether a GSD should place the hind paw inside, or outside, the forepaw. That this controversy arose at all is incredible, because one of the earliest tests carried out by the SV, established that German Shepherd Dogs moved in a straight succession of paw prints, whether walking, or trotting, on leash or off leash. Max von Stephanitz described the tests, carried out in a light snowfall of 12 millimetres. Several dogs were tested and gave the same result.

He supplied a diagram, scale of 1 to 10, of the paw prints and this comment, "This dog, Egga von der Burg Fasanental SZ 361715 HGH. has a strong back and, therefore, an elastic and tireless gait". The full report is on pages 56-57 of "The German Shepherd Dog" by Capt. von Stephanitz. That information was available, since the 20's in German and in English long **before** the controversy began, leaving one to wonder at the American dilemma, for it can only have arisen, through prolonged deliberate intention to ignore the SV and WUSV standard for the breed, on overangulation, resulting in their dogs trotting awkwardly.

The skeleton is the bony structure which provides rigid cavities to safely house the brain and the olfactory region of the air passages through the nose. The spinal cord, the vital communications channel linked to the brain, is ducted through the spinal vertebrae. The rib cage forms a more flexible cavity to contain the chest organs. The pelvis helps contain the uterus and intestines. It also forms passive components of the locomotion apparatus giving reinforcement to the limbs. Bone is a remarkably strong substance. Compared to steel it has 85 % of the strength for around a third of the weight.



PASSIVE LOCOMOTION APPARATUS, bones and joints of the dog

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 01. Os nasale. | 09. 6 cervical vertebrae. | 17. 1st lumbar vertebra. | 24. Ulna. | 31. Patella. |
| 02. Upper mandible. | 10. 1st rib. | 18. 7th lumbar vertebra | 25. Carpus, 8 bones. | 32. Tibia. |
| 03. Os frontale. | 11. 12th rib. | 19. Os sacrum | 26. Metacarpus 5 | 33. Fibula. |
| 04. Os parietal. | 12. One floating. | 20. Coccyges vertebrae, | bones. | 34. Tarsus. |
| 05. Condyle. | 13. Prosternum. | 17 - 23. | 27. Phalanges. | 35. Metatarsus, 4 bones |
| 06. Lower mandible. | 14. Sternum. | 21. Scapula. | 28. Pelvis, 5 fused. | 36. Phalanges. |
| 07. Eye socket. | 15. Thorax vertebrae. | 22. Humerus. | 29. Hip joint. | |
| 08. 1st. cervical vertebra. | 16. 13th thorax vertebra. | 23. Radius. | 30. Femur. | |

38 THE EXTENDED FAMILY



Ingo vom Piastendamm SchH. V.



Trutz a. d. Schwanenstadt SchH. V.



Donna zum Reuer



Flora (Berkemeyer)



Axel v. d. Deininghauserheide SchH3. FH.



Lex v. Preussenblut SchH 3.

Invariably dominant lines are tail male, males only, which is unfair to the females, who contribute 50 % of the genetic material **and** do **all** of the nurturing, but that's the way it is in canine matters. Of course the odds are in favour of a good male stamping his mark on the breed. In the SV a *Koerklasse* I male is permitted 60 matings a

year, while the most even the best bitch can produce are two litters annually, over a shorter number of years. The great bitches tend to be ignored, who hears anything about Palme vom Wildsteiger Land SZ=1478659 SchH 2, who had two sons, Uran and Quando, both twice Sieger in the mid eighties? Her sister, Perle, was Siegerin of 1982,

but Palme outshone her in the nursery, where it counted most.

A view we shall take of the great family, which is the breed of German Shepherd Dogs, is that of a living organism, such as a tree, ever growing and expanding, sometimes losing twigs and branches, for dominant lines form, flourish and occasionally wither away. Again, using a tree for analogy, we shall regard the registered dogs as the visible tree and the mass of herding dogs they were bred up from as the hidden and forgotten root system.

One of the shortest lines, just a sucker shoot in fact, was that of the first Sieger, Jorg von der Krone, in 1899. (Look in Galerie der Sieger). He was one of the aristocracy of the 'old stock' all right, but he transmitted very little and was soon superseded and forgotten. Like many another champion around the world to follow him, he was unable to transmit his excellence in the show ring to his progeny and faded almost without trace.

Arlbert von Grafrath SZ=190, Sieger of 1904 (G der S), the only Sieger bred by the Rittmeister, was also descended from the old aristocracy, though **not** through Horand von Grafrath SZ=1. He was also a monumental failure, in the breeding department.

The same can be said of Peter v. Pritschen, the Sieger of 1902 (G der S), who **was** a son of Horand the First and Great. They were like saplings, thrown up by the root system, but were soon overshadowed by a more dominant line and faded to obscurity.

Luchs (Sparwasser) was a litter brother of Horand von Grafrath SZ 1, who founded a dynasty of his own, which flourished for four generations, flowering in Norbert vom Kohlwald SZ=9364 PH., Sieger of 1911 and again in 1912 (G S) and also champion of France and of Holland. After all that, deafening silence about Luchs' line, 'though his genes continued, with his brother making a major contribution to the embryonic breed.

The family tree of the GSD breed is firmly rooted in Horand von Grafrath SZ=1 and his son, Hektor vom Schwaben SZ=13, Sieger of 1900+01 (G d. S). Four of Hektor's sons established dynasties of their own. We shall deal with them in ascending order.

Roland vom Park, out of Flora (1st) vom Karlsruhe (Look in Galerie der Sieger), followed his dad to the Sieger title in 1903. Roland's owner permitted the dissipation of his talents among inferior females and his line faded abruptly.

Pilot SZ=113 founded somewhat more permanent lines, forking through Graf v Hohen Esp to the

Boll and Kriminalpolizei lines. The shorter of the two ends with Harras von der Juch, Sieger 1921. The other line runs through Luchs v. Karlsmund Wetzlar, (G) Sieger of 1908 and Luchs' son, Tell v. d. Kriminalpolizei, Sieger of 1910 (G d. S). Tell's son, Arno v. Eichenburg, Sieger of 1913 (G S), threw off a line of grossly oversized dogs, circa 68-70 cm, leading to Donar vom Overstolzen, Sieger of 1924 (G d. S). Then came oblivion. There was no future for oversized dogs after the radical decision taken in 1925.

The next Hektor vom Schwaben son to spotlight is Beowulf SZ=10, who sired the Sieger of 1905, Beowulf Nahegau SZ=733 (G d. S), but long-term, Beowulf's excellence was transmitted through another lesser son, as often happens with inheritance. He was a lowly herding dog, far removed from the show circle, but he produced strong diverging lines and he was Jokel vom Schwetzingen SZ=1861 HGH. Jokel's first line produced Cito v Bergerslust, Sieger of 1922+'23(G d. S), Arko vom Sadowaberg, Sieger 1927 (G d. S). Jokel's other line has proven far more enduring, coming down through Claudius v. Hain to Edo v. Gehrdener Berg, who was VA 1 in 1953, a year the Sieger title was not awarded, to Arno vom Haus Gersie, Sieger of 1957 (G d. S) and all of 13 generations down from Beowulf to the outstandingly impressive Volker vom Zollgrenzeschutz Haus Sieger of 1959+'60 (G d. S), whose head study has become an icon of the breed and has been admired and drooled over wherever there are fanciers of the GSD around the world.

The main line from Horand von Grafrath, which has formed the bole, or trunk, of the GSD family tree, passes through Hektor v. Schwaben to a fourth son of Hektor, Heinz vom Starkenburg, who wasn't even registered, to Heinz's son, Roland v. Starkenburg SZ=1537, the Sieger of 1906+'7 (G der S). Roland was an all black. He was bred by W. Spielman, Gross Steinheim on the Main. It could be argued, without fear of contradiction, that the Main Valley around Frankfurt, was the original source and cradle of the German Shepherd Dog. Roland was closely inbred on lines emanating from the royal couple, Roland the First and Courage, who lived near Frankfurt-on-Main around 1880. His pedigree shows inbreeding 2-3 on Hektor v. Schwaben, 2-2 (double grandam) on Lucie v. Starkenburg, in addition his grandsire, Beowulf, had Horand von Grafrath standing in as both grandsires. On top of all that they were all related through Pollux to the first Roland and his consort, Courage. Why should anyone have a dread of inbreeding after all that?.

Roland v. Starkenburg sired two Siegerins; Hulda

vom Siegestor SZ=4831, Siegerin of 1907 and Flora von der Warte, Siegerin the following year. On the distaff side he was the grandsire of Tell v. d. Kriminalpolizei and Flora v. d. Kriminalpolizei who took the Sieger and Siegerin titles in 1910. Roland produced a spur line, through his son, Gunter Uekermark SZ=2980, to the Sieger of 1919, Dolf v. Dusterbrook, but the honour of pennant bearer fell to Guntar's younger brother, Hettel Uekermark

Dr. Poppe made the long journey South, to acquire the good bitch, Gretel von Hohen-Esp and bring her back to Kiel, near the Danish border. She was renamed Gretel Uekermark SZ=357. Her genes were 62.5 % Schwaben Sheep Dog and 37.5 % came from ancestors closely related to the doyen couple, Roland and Courage, in the Central States of Hessen and Thuringian.

Gretel was introduced to the intensively inbred Roland vom Starckenburg (G d. S). His genetic composition was 75 % Central and only 25 % Schwaben Sheep Dog. That was what went into the pot, but the mix was magical, fusing the two strains to produce a better type, exemplified by Hettel Uekermark SZ=3897 HGH (G d. S sitting when photographed). Hettel was awarded the Sieger title in 1909, setting the seal of approval on the merger of the Central States stock with that of Schwabia. Hettel's 6 generation pedigree, in chapter 5, illustrates the earliest efforts to establish a registered breed.

A Hettel son, Ali von der Sudenburg SZ=11028 PH, was the Sieger of Austria, in 1912.

Hettel mated Flora (Berkemeyer) (see page 211) and through her established a very questionable line, which could almost be described as a dominant female line, for, in no uncertain manner Flora's shortcomings have been passed from generation to generation, right down to the present day. At first glance her size and coat colouring looked good. After that, even a novice studying anatomy would see she was constructed badly, on top of that she was unsure in temperament. Her line was suspect and the SV warned against inbreeding on her. Oddly enough the American author, Ernest H. Hart, waxed fulsome in his praise of this bitch in, "This is the German Shepherd" revised edition, 1967. As follows;

"Flora Berkemeyer, mother and pillar of the Riedekenburg line. This lovely bitch was also a fortuitous mutant whose impact on the genetic make-up of her time is felt to this day. She gave a beauty of form, an essence of refinement and quality that was mirrored in her grandson Erich. Through the A, B and D litters Riedekenburg she established her vital worth". In fact, her influence was diametrically opposite to that. Hart put that misinformation

in his book, which was claimed "a classic in the field of modern canine literature and the modern 'bible' of all earnest Shepherdites", 20 years **after** von Stephanitz's very severe criticism of Flora, appeared in English. With duff information like that, was it any wonder the GSD breed was in dire straits, in America, at that time.

Here is what von Stephanitz wrote about Flora ; "Strongly protruding steep shoulder, un-shepherd-dog-like erected neck, high but short withers, too long back, no fore chest, badly knit chest". He also said her faults came through regularly, when her line was bred with many other lines. Wonder what kind of glasses Hart was looking through.

Flora was a prolific breeder and reared a great many puppies. Such profusion of animals, all carrying some of her faulty genes into the breed, when it was in an embryonic stage, ensured Flora's faults became deeply embedded and virtually impossible to eradicate. Faults in many dogs around the world today can be traced directly to Flora.

Through a Flora son, Billo vom Riedekenburg, a secondary line from Hettel has tenaciously persisted, in parallel with his main line, down to Mutz von der Pelztierfarm. Since Mutz, so much mixing of the two lines has been done that Billo's line is now virtually indistinguishable. A spur from this secondary line, passing through Armin v. Ernaslieb, who incidentally emigrated to England between the World Wars, ends with the Sieger of 1936, Arras aus der Stadt Velbert. Unquestionably whatever good genes Billo was passing on he got from his father, Hettel and not from his mother, Flora.

Billo's main line, or perhaps that should be Flora's line, passed through several generations of very mediocre dogs, before bursting forth to exert tremendous influence after World War 2. The breed was ravaged by war and the loss of so many good dogs had an immeasurable detrimental effect, which allowed lesser animals to come to the fore front, as all too often the good were taken and the bad were left with us.

Flora's line came to eminence when Axel von der Deininghauserheide SZ=624836 SchH 3. DPH (See page 211). was awarded VA 1, in the absence of the Sieger title, at Bremen in 1950. Five years later when the Sieger title was restored, at Frankfurt, Alf v. Nordfelsen SZ=739163 SchH 3 (G d. S), took the honour. Although **10** generations removed, Alf displayed Flora's poor shoulder assembly. Veus von der Starrenburg SZ=955904 SchH 3. (G d. S), an Alf son, was Sieger of 1961, from where the line begins to sink into obscurity.

Alf v Nordfelsen's strongest line is through Held



Hein Richterbach



Klodo Eremitenklause



Vello z. d. sieben Faulen



Jalk v. Fohlenbrunnen



Cäsar Malmansheide



Dago v. Schoß Dahlhausen



Nick v. Dreimarkenstein



Mutz v. d. Pelztierfarm



Caro v. Schaaftgarten



Eras v. Hambachtal



Hero v. Lauerhof



Jonny v. d. Rheinhalle



Quax v. Bubenlachring



Reza v. d. Wienerau



Jupp v. d. Haller Farm

vom Haus Elkeman and Axel von der Pelztierfarm, to Mutz von der Pelztierfarm, a dog who became one of the four pillars of the breed in the seventies. Having traversed this line thus far we shall disembark and make a journey back in time of sixty years to rejoin the mainline of the breed, emanating from the magnificent Hettel Uekermark.

Hettel passed on the clearly defined main line to his son, Alex vom Westfalenheim, who served at the Front during World War 1. Fortunately, before dying on active service, Alex sired three sons, each capable of stamping excellence on his progeny and thereby passing down the undoubted quality of their grandfather.

Curt vom Morgensonne headed the least significant of the three lines through three generations von Blasienberg, namely; Caro, Sultan and Otlan. All bred in Württemberg by shepherd Tobias Ott, Bietigheim, leading up to a crescendo with Herold aus der Niederlausitz the Sieger of 1930, with a repeat performance in 1931.

One would dearly love to know the thoughts of the breed master, when not once but twice, he awarded the honour to this rangy, oversized, grey dog. Could it be that he was having doubts about the switch to lower stature, which was made five years earlier? Perhaps he felt he had overdone it the previous year, 1929, by selecting Utz vom Haus Schuetting, who was just above the lower limit for height at a scarce 61 cm.. By then Max was entering his late sixties and the zeal which had burned in his belly and driven him throughout his life may have been starting to cool down. A more plausible explanation might be that Herold's few centimetres above the magical "65" were overlooked because he had HGH parents and was himself employed in sheep herding. It was no secret that the sheep herding dogs lay closest to the heart of Max von Stephanitz. The leading breeders were not impressed and ignored Herold, so in disgust he emigrated to Japan and with his departure brought the line abruptly to an end.

A second line from the war hero, Alex vom Westfalenheim, leads from his son, Arno vom Furstenberg, down to Munko von der Hohen Fichte SZ-608944 SchH 3, VA 1950 and Lido vom Friedlichen Heim SZ=764298 SchH 3, VA 1952 and again in 1954

Back once more to the main stream, which passes through Alex vom Westfalenheim to his most important son, Erich von Grafenwerth SZ=71141 PH. Sieger of 1920 (Galerie der Sieger), who was to shape the breed, quite literally, between the wars and far beyond. Erich had his faults, how well could he escape them, with Flora (Berkemeyer) for grand

mother, but the fact that His Excellency Hettel Uekermark was his grandsire on BOTH sides was bound to outweigh Flora's contribution. Between the two World Wars the title of Sieger was awarded nineteen times, on ten occasions the title went to Erich von Grafenwerth, or one of his direct descendants.

Erich's grandson, Erich vom Glockenbrink SZ=275752, was the Sieger of 1926, with a repeat performance in 1928 (G d. S). He was unimpressive, following on after his uncle Klodo, the previous year. His line went on for four generations, to Pfeffer v. Bern SZ=466407 MH = Meldehund. The Nazis had taken an unwelcome interest in the breed and once



German Sieger 1937 Pfeffer v. Bern 466407 ZPr, MH, angek. 1938-39, born 20. 6. 34 (*Dachs v. Bern 429017 ZPr - *Clara v. Bern 430250 ZPr). Breeder: Fr. Schorling, Hannover.

again were training dogs for war. Pfeffer (=pepper) returned from the US to take trophy, in 1937. I fail to find an explanation for Pfeffer being ousted and Odin vom Busecker Schloss (G d. S), who was in 2nd place, being promoted to Sieger of 1937, in the centennial '100 Jahre' issue of the SV Zeitung. Dr. Roesebeck placed Pfeffer ahead of Odin, in Munich '37. Ten years later, in the official English translation of von Stephanitz's "The German Shepherd Dog", translated by A. Schwabacher, Pfeffer is credited with the title, as does Erwin Wieser, in his breed Family Tree and again, by Goldbecker and Hart in "This is the German Shepherd Dog". Can somebody be trying to rewrite history?

Under the Nazis the VA system was established. A small group were selected from the excellent section of adult classes and deemed to be *Vorzuglich Auslese* = Excellent Select and declared to be of equal merit. The reason was to discourage over breeding on a single male, because of the Sieger title. Breeders were not that gullible and were quite capable of making their own choices, as they had shown with Herold a. d. Niederlausitz.

Pfeffer had the short forelegs and heavy, low slung chest, then fashionable in the mid '30's. With good expression and rich pigmentation he stood out in the crowd.

Erich von Grafenwerth mated Elfie vom Boxberg in the year following his triumph. From this union the best known dog of the GSD breed was born 20/08/1921. The breeder was Herr Dieneman, Gotha, East Germany. Four years later a male from that litter led the parade around the ring in Frankfurt am Main, to rapturous applause, after moving into pole position and being proclaimed the Sieger.

Klodo vom Boxberg SZ=135239, Sieger 1925 (G), was the wonder dog on whom the entire breed was pivoted around and steered away from the disastrous path **up** which it was scrambling, in the foolish pursuit of large size. Klodo was not whipped out of a hat, he had won in Czechoslovakia two years before, but was overlooked in his homeland due to the craze for tall dogs. Compared to his rivals, built upright like model T Fords, Klodo was long and low and as aerodynamic as an Aston Martin and he moved like one, too, for Klodo had the tirelessly enduring gait which is fundamental in the true Shepherd Dog. He had a pleasing coat of grey over tan markings (or gelb in the German colour code). Without a shadow of doubt he remains one of the exalted group who were truly great.

Klodo burst like a Super Nova onto the scene at Frankfurt and totally eclipsed the Boll and Kriminalpolizei lines, heralding the end of the era of tall, square dogs. At the time of his victory, Klodo was owned by Dr. Werner Funk, a name very much to the forefront of the breed for the next forty odd years, his kennel name, "vom Haus Schuetting", frequently appearing in the honours lists. Like almost every other Sieger of that era, including Erich, his sire, Klodo boarded the ocean liner and left for the Land of the Free.

A Klodo son, Curt vom Herzog Hedan, sired the Sieger of 1933, Odin vom Stolzenfels SZ=406023 (pictured in Galerie der Sieger). Odin travelled to Japan to take the Japanese title as well. Sieger Odin's son, Ferdl von der Secretainerie SZ=458647 SchH 2, was V 5 at the 1937 Show and a year later was among the group of 8 dogs awarded VA, as the VA group replaced the Sieger title.

Utz vom Haus Schuetting SZ=331999 (G der S), the Sieger of 1929 led the way into the thirties. Out of Donna zum Reuer SZ=255893, a very off colour, really washed out bitch, who had some very questionable breeding in her background. She departed the Vaterland and found a new home in the Emerald Isle. The choice of Utz over Alf von der

Webbelmannslust SZ=299684, was very, very controversial. They were half brothers, with Klodo their dad. Alf was also grey, like Klodo. Max von Stephanitz defended his decision to pass over Alf, in favour of Utz and met the criticism with the following comment on Alf, "He inherited on his mother's side quite a few other strains, among those also that of the Boll blood". Which indicates that steering away from the stilt legged dogs was still paramount in his mind, because he was also well aware of the quota of faults carried by Utz's mother, Donna. In the unenviable position of king maker, the breed master was constantly confronted with difficult decisions to make. In the show ring those choices have to be made, by the officiating judge, who, we hope, has the interests of the entire breed at heart and acts in all honesty, whether for good, or bad, only time will tell and be borne out subsequently by the quality of the progeny (Donna picture on page 211).



Gockel v. Bern, SchH.

The choice of Utz, as Sieger, started a trend to very low stature, which was carried to extreme in a couple of generations. Every correction, it seemed, led to oversteering of the breed in the opposite direction. Soon the breed was plagued with chests which were too heavy, too low slung and carried on short forelegs. The trend was slavishly followed in Britain, where massive muscle-bound stance, with chest fronts puffed out like ducks, were presented as "the ideal Alsatian". They went well along the way to establishing a new breed, far removed from the pastoral dogs trotting tirelessly around their flocks.

Utz vom Haus Schuetting was both prolific and prepotent. Dominant lines radiate from him, like wheel spokes. Some of his lines did not survive the war, which took a horrendous toll of good dogs. One line, through Dux vom Haus Schuetting, went into elliptical orbit, like Halley's comet, reappearing every twenty years, or so. First time around it was Cralo Haunstetten making VA in 1946-9 (G d. S) and

with his two sons, Marko Wotansburg and Olaf Hohen Fichte, all three VA in 1949, but it was a third son who graded a mere V on that occasion who took the line into its next orbit, which made a reappearance with Cyrus Balticum, VA in 1965. The next lap was shorter, just two generations, until his grandson, Marko, made a dazzling appearance. More about Marko anon for he is one of the Big Four in Recent Dominant Sires.

The main line from Utz emerged from a son bred and born in his home kennels, Hussan vom Haus Schuetting the Sieger of 1932 (Galerie d. Sieger), to Brando Heidelberger, to Odo Sieben-Faulen, to Billo Oberviehland, to Hein vom Richterbach. Hein was just V, but he was one of the most prepotent studs ever in the breed. 22 of his sons were graded V, four of them making it to the exclusive VA class. Indeed, at one time it was hard to get an SV registered pedigree in which Hein did not figure.

Two broad lines emerge from Hein with equal promise of becoming the dominant one, but time would prove otherwise. From Hein we will take the left fork to Carlo Hannastein VA 1948 (G d. S), to Witz Haus Schuetting VA 1952 & 53, to Hanko von der Hetschmuhle, Sieger of 1965 (G d. S), yet another Sieger who is long forgotten.

The fork to the right went to Casar von der Malmannsheide, an unrivalled 5 times VA, in '55/6/8/9 and '60, (until Jeck v. Noricum VA 89/90/1/2/3 Sieger and Cash v. Wildsteiger Land VA 93/4/5/6/7 equalled it), to Bodo Tannenbruch, to Ajax Haus Dexel, the Sieger of 1963 (Galerie d. Sieger) and another cul-de-sac.

Two other lines from Utz ended abruptly with Siegers, which brings into question the importance of the title and the impact of Siegers on the development of the breed, as a whole. Erich Pagensgrub sired Jalk Pagensgrub, the Sieger of 1935(G S) and another Utz son, Bero Deutschen Werken fathered the Sieger of 1934, Cuno vom Georgentor (G S).

Starting again from Utz vom Haus Schuetting, with a lesser sibling eventually outperforming a more highly awarded brother. This was the case with a litter brother of Bero, for it was Baron vom Deutschen Werken who provided the main line. Baron sired a litter for Shepherd Tobais Ott, Wurttemberg, which included Wiegand vom Blasienberg, who in turn fathered Gockel v. Bern, a bi-colour with glossy black skull and mantle with tan legs. Gockel's mother was Vicki, a litter sister of Voss v. Bern, brought to Ireland by Mrs G.M.Barrington, on the advice of no less an authority than von Stephanitz. Voss laid the foundations for quality, at the Brittas kennels and many another, especially in

England, where it was a proud boast to have Brittas bred dogs in the kennels, or on the pedigrees.

Gockel's son, Ingo vom Piastendamm (see page 211), was in third place in Munich, 1937, behind his first cousin, Pfeffer v. Bern, who had returned from the US to take the Sieger title, Vicki v. Bern was grandmother to both. "vom Piastendamm" kennels were owned by Dr. Med. W. Simon, Bochum, who was a stalwart in the breed for a great many years.

Trutz Schwannenstadt bridged the war years to Ingo's grandson, Lex vom Preussenblut, who was the second of 3 VA dogs in Hamburg, in the British Occupation Zone, in 1946, just a year after hostilities ended. The SV lost no time in getting things restarted, despite their offices being bombed in 1945. Another show was held in Munich, which was in the American Occupation Zone, where 5 dogs were awarded VA."v. Preussenblut" ("Prussian blood") was one of the very few showing kennels which survived the war, kept going by a very young kennel maid, while the owner was away on active service. When the war was over they married, despite a wide age gap between them. She bore him two sons to ensure continuity of this famous kennel name.

Lex v. Preussenblut's (Trutz & Lex picture on page 211) best achievement was possibly siring the "R" litter Osnabrucker Land, which yielded Rolf (G d. S), Racker and sisters Reina, Rena and Rosel, who, singly and collectively exerted overwhelming influence on future generations. Reina SZ=460722 SchH 3. was VA as was Rena SZ=460723 SchH 2 VA, but Rosel played a bigger role in maternity and the puppy stakes, where it really counted most.

Racker v. Osnabrucker Land did not grade at all well, but must be included in this study because a line comes down from him through Ulbert, Atlas and Raps, all vom Piastendamm, to Dago vom Schloss Dahlhausen, VA in 1968 (see page 214), a formidable name still found far back on many pedigrees.

Rolf vom Osnabrucker Land SZ=640721 SchH 3 VA 1 and would- be Sieger if the title had been on offer, in Ludwigshafen in 1951, in the dearth of good dogs following World War 2 Rolf was a mighty force in the breed. His production of 6 VA and 14 V dogs places him among the elite group of sires who stamped their progeny with their own excellence. So prepotent was Rolf, that almost regardless of the quality of his partner he could raise the quality of the offspring. Little wonder then that his position on the chart resembles 'Spaghetti junction'. Much space would be required to do all of his lines justice. So much close inbreeding was done on the, "Three R's", that's Rolf, Racker and Rosel that a determined effort had to be made to diversify and broaden the main stream.

Rolf vom Osnabrucker Land exuded masculinity. He had a good expression which matched his good character, but for all that there was a sting in the tail, or more precisely in Rolf's case, it was near the tail. Ah, well, the perfect dog has yet to be whelped. Like his father, Lex, had before him, Rolf had a strong, straight back ending abruptly in a short, very steep croup and this shortcoming he unfailingly bestowed, without fear or favour, on everything he begot. With so much Lex Preussenblut and "R" Osnabrucker Land production, the genes for short steep croups became virtually homozygous, or "fixed", in the GSD breed and for twenty years breeders struggled with the problem in desperation and almost despairing of ever finding a solution.

Five of Rolf's VA sons were non events in the breeding kennels and their lines lead into the wilderness. They are Druses z. d. Sieben Faulen, VA 1951 & 53 (G d. S), Amor v. Haus Hoheide, VA 1955, Bursche v. Pangsthugel, VA 1952, Gero v. Stuhri Gau, VA 1953 and Hardt v. Stuveschacht, (Galerie der Sieger) the Sieger of 1956 in Dortmund.

One line from Rolf took off under a great head of steam, but became derailed in the 60's. It passed through Donar Firnskuppe, VA 1957, to Zibu Haus Schuetting, Sieger of 1964 (G d. S), who had a cluster of VA sons, namely; Jacko Bimohlen, VA in 1964, Basko Kalher Heide, Sieger of 1966 (G d. S), Quido Haus Schuetting, VA 1966 and Dido Werther Konigsallee, the Sieger of 1968 (G d. S). All have long ago lost their influence.

The recurrence of numerous "Haus Schuetting" dogs and their immediate descendants, appearing among the high awards during the sixties, with such negative after-effect, is a clear indication that the ageing president, Dr. Funk, was obsessed with keeping his line, which he considered to be the best, to the forefront. His selections for VA and Sieger during that time were most disappointing. The knowledgeable breeders just smiled tolerantly, ignored them and declined to follow his lead.

Another Rolf son, Brando Tappenort, VA 1955, produced a weak line down through Fredo Gellerhorn and Tom Haus Solms to Arras vom Haus Helma, the Sieger of 1971 (G d. S), another disappointing champion. Arras' son Marck Stocken, VA 73 + 75 and his son Marko Liborius Brunnen, VA in '77 and '78 bring this somewhat insignificant line well into the time frame encompassed by, Recent Dominant Sires.

Another Rolf line took an unlikely path to a brief burst of glory, then vanished. From Rolf, to Donnar Sieben Faulen, to Yasko Tiede, to Lex Dri-Kinder-Haus, to Vello Sieben Faulen, a giant of a dog, who

couldn't pass under the "Limbo stick", and, therefore never stood for his *Ankoerung*, or Breed Survey. That did not deter some canny breeders from introducing their females to him, which should explode the myth, so assiduously propagated abroad, that the SV operates as a dictatorship.

Vello had quality. Seven of his sons grading V, two of them VA. That's a lot more than many a VA dog, with all his credentials, has produced. They were Roon Sieben Faulen, VA 1960 and '61, who was a cul-de-sac and the bear like Jalk vom Fohlenbrunnen, VA in 1961 + 2 + 3, who sired the "L" litter, Lido, Landa VA, Liane, etc. "von der Wienerau", a name that will not be written out of the breed annals. Lido sired the very handsome Nick vom Dreimarkenstein, VA in 1968, '69 and '70.

Another Vello son, Dolf Lierberg, sired Arko Pflaumbachtal, VA in 1975, in turn Arko fathered Canto Overledinger Land, VA in 1980. Vello's greatest hour had to be in Mannheim, in 1967, when two of his sons filled 1st and 3rd places. They were the Lierberg Lovelies, litter brothers, Bodo (G d. S) and Bernd. Sieger Bodo vom Lierberg's son, Joll vom Benholt, had some luck with two of his sons. Bredo Lichtburghof attained VA in 1969 as did Hardt Spruhturm, in 1970 + 1 (Vello picture page 214).

Bernd vom Lierberg's highly respected son, Boss vom Amalienhof was the father of Wanko vom Maaraue, VA in 1981 Alf v Waldorf Emst, a V son of Rolf vom Osnabrucker Land, initiated two lines, one through Junker Summerland, to Lardo Spargeldorf, to Alf vom Convent, VA in 1965, to the diffident Heiko Oranien Nassau, twice Sieger = 1969 & '70 (G d. S). The other, running through Asslan Maiweg, to Fix Sieben Faulen, to Hein vom Konigsbruch, to Canto von der Wienerau, another of the four dogs destined to profoundly influence the breed during the seventies and far beyond.

Rejoining the main line express at Rolf vom Osnabrucker Land junction, we find, once again, the most important line from a noble sire passes through a son overshadowed by his brilliant brothers. Rolf's unqualified son, Arko Delog, managed to produce Condor vom Hohenstamm, the Sieger of 1958 (G d. S), who was the father of Mutz vom Kuckstrasse, Sieger of 1962 (G d. S), who proved to be little more than "a sport".

Fortunately Condor had another son who bore the same name, Condor vom Schnapp, who passed the baton on to his son, the third Condor in a row, Condor vom Zollgrenzschutz Haus, VA in 1965 & '66, but far more importantly, he begot Quanto von der Wienerau, who completes the quartet of internationally famous

dogs who took the limelight as the sixties came to a close and a sea change affected the breed.

Dr. Vet. Med. Christof Rummel, Lorsch, on the banks of the Rhine, assumed the presidency. He had a weakness or two, where is the man without one ?, giving an occasional favouritism in the ring, but he was a good man, his heart was in the right place. He did tremendous work in the World Union of Shepherd Dog Societies. His aims were for peace and harmony, between members, clubs and nations. His training and professional skills were a distinct asset in the show ring, especially when assessing anatomy and there was a lot left to be desired in that department, when he took over as president and principal breed master. A very worthy successor to Rittmeister von Stephanitz.

In 1955, the year the Sieger title was restored in Frankfurt am Main, Dr. Funk, like the lady in the commercial for brand X flour giving her baking a little lift, decided to give the breed, "a little lift". The axiom, "long, level and low to ground", which held sway in the thirties, was soon proven to be fallacious, but the effects lingered on even after the war and were still widespread, especially among the large "R" Osnabrucker Land clan.

He plumped for Alf vom Nordfelsen, because of his bold expression and height of withers, but Alf's impressive height was at the expense of his shoulder angulation. His elevation rekindled interest in the secondary line, which has run parallel with, at times rivalled, but never surpassed the main line. The second line had its origins in Flora (Berkemeyer) and unfailingly perpetuated the faults of Flora's poor anatomy. There is a lesson somewhere in that, for the novice intending to start breeding with an inferior bitch.

When Dr. Rummel took over, the breeders were struggling with two major anatomical faults, one at either end of the dog. For clarity, they were short and/or steep croups and steep, sometimes short, upper arms resulting in insufficient angulation at the shoulder joint. The first curtailed the rearwards thrust of the power stroke and the second limited forward reach and in consequence both produced serious gaiting faults.

Just how bad the situation was, may be gauged from a contribution by Erich Orschler, of "v. Batu" fame, which appeared in the August and September 1978 issues of the SV Zeitung. At the 1974 Sieger Show 178 male dogs were awarded "V" for Excellent. Of that number 46 % were commented on for short croups and 16 % for poorly placed croups, making a total of 62 % with less than desirable croup construction.

His analysis of breed survey reports collated from the 1976 Koerbuch was, of the 858 males first time surveyed, only 21.5 % received favourable comment for croups, while 55 % were negatively commented on. 23.5 % received no comment. He attributed the problem to heavy inbreeding on certain dogs. Dogs cited were Lex vom Preussenblut, Rolf vom Osnabrucker Land, Hein vom Richterbach and Condor vom Hohenstamm.

Herr Oschler supplied the following tabulation, based on the 1977 Koerbuch;

Sire	Number of Progeny	Favourable	Negative	No comment
Marko vom Cellerland	37 dogs	31%	39%	30%
Bernd vom Lierberg	176	20%	40%	40%
Quanto von der Wienerau	173	27%	53%	20%
Frei von der Gugge	172	21%	53%	26%
Mutz von der Pelztierfarm	145	34%	40%	26%
Hero vom Lauerhof	108	31%	39%	30%
Canto von der Wienerau	79	46%	28%	26%
Ajax vom Haus Dexel	76	35%	23%	42%
Arras vom Haus Helma	69	29%	30%	41%
Jupp von der Murrenhutte	65	26%	49%	25%

When the poor shoulder angulation, of Sieger Alf vom Nordfelsen, representing the secondary line, which had originated in Flora, was added to the croup problem of the main line, through Lex and Rolf, the breeders found it impossible to overcome, for when it was right at one end it was wrong at the other and the picture was spoiled. Then, at the end of the 60's, a quartet of dogs emerged, raising fresh hopes of attaining the ideal anatomy. They were;

Mutz von der Pelztierfarm

SZ=1122617 SchH 3 VA 2 "a"NZ Vice Sieger 1970

Quanto von der Wienerau

SZ=1133695 SchH 2 VA 2 "a"NZ Vice Sieger 1971

Marko vom Cellerland

SZ=1169323 SchH 3. FH VA 1 "a"NZ Sieger 1972

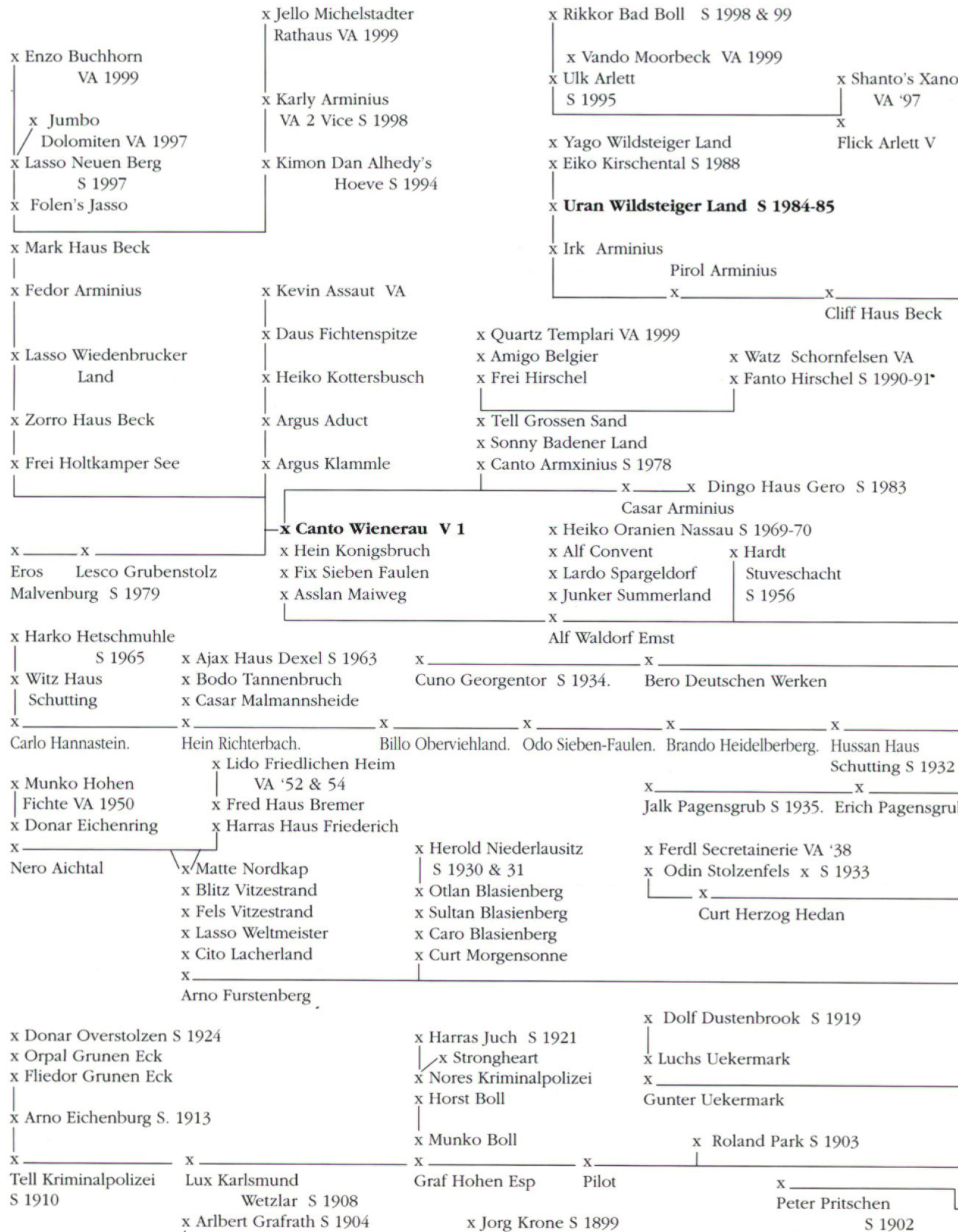
Canto von der Wienerau

SZ=1176588 SchH 2 V 1 "a"FN

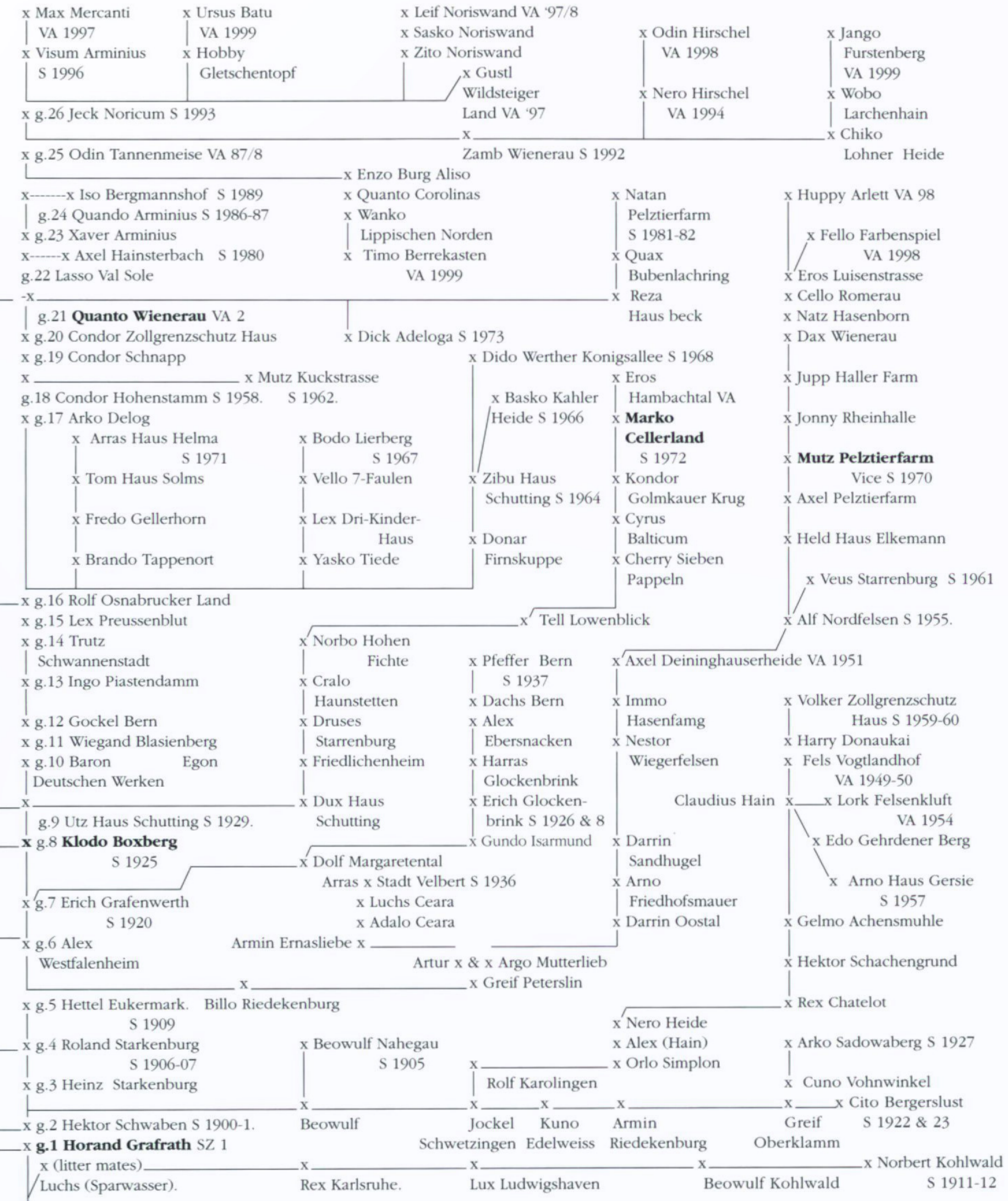
Important.

The SV have confirmed, 03.05.00, that Pfeffer v. Bern, and not Odin v. Busecker Schloss was the Sieger of 1937.

FAMILY TREE OF THE GERMAN



SHEPHERD DOG BREED



Root stock of Sheep Herding Dogs from Central and Southern Germany

39 RECENT DOMINANT SIREs

Mutz, Quanto and Marko all graded VA in 1970, what a year that was for talent spotters. Canto, despite his weakness of character, lack of pigmentation and hacking gait was elevated to V1, simply because he had the best croup there was around.

Hero v. Lauerhof SZ=1193521 was a magnificent almost all black, who had a short burst of glory, as Vice Sieger of 1972 and again of '73, followed by his son, Arak v. d. Holledau SZ=1270947 VA 1, but not Sieger, at Bremen 1976, again VA '77. Although quite numerous in the early 70's very dark dogs were becoming obsolete and would join the dinosaurs by the end of the decade. Which made me very sad.

MARKO vom CELLERLAND (G d. S)

Marko was the Sieger of 1972. He was bred by Ernst Lindhorst and lived at Winsen, in the Waterkant district of North West Germany. On his elevation that day he bore all the promise, of another turning, away from the chunky angular dogs of the sixties, similar to that achieved by Klodo vom Boxbergs, 47 years earlier, but it just was not to be. He had several good sons and one or two grandsons and after that his line just drifted to the distaff side. The fact that his sire, Kondor vom Golmkauer Krug SZ=1109329 HGH, was a sheep herding dog would surely have been taken into account, if the Rittmeister were still around. Having been an admirer of Marko and also very impressed by his sons, an explanation was sought, why oblivion overtook him and his line so swiftly, after gaining great popularity and receiving so much acclaim.

Research showed he was a popular stud and prolific breeder. His hip status was the same as Mutz and Quanto. The shoulders, croups and hips of his progeny were better than average. The answer must lie elsewhere. Then it almost leaped off the pages. NONE of the big name kennels appeared among the lists of progeny. The leading breeders had kept their bitches away and frozen out Marko and his line. Questions were asked. Why?. The best answer forthcoming was, "Marko was not bred intensively enough". Brian Wooton has enlightened me there were shortcomings in the forehands.

It is more likely, that the lines of Marko, Hero and all black Frei v. d. Guggle 1112988 VA 1969,'70, being frozen out, was due to nothing more than

coat colour. Marko was very dark and produced very dark, some almost all black bi-colours, at a time when the 'Inner Circle', occasionally referred to in Germany as the, "Mannheimer Mafia", as so many of them were clustered round that city, were very heavily into dogs that were scarce in pigmentation. To name just two, Canto v d Wienerau and Mutz v d Pelztierfarm. They were pinning their hopes on this pair correcting croups and having nailed their colours to the mast, did not want the distraction of jumbled colours in the show ring.

Just a theory that lacked evidence, or proof, but that came in the mid eighties, when one of the 'Inner Circle' was judging in Dublin. As a side show, aspiring judges were invited to place, in order of merit, a class of five dogs, 4 black and golds and 1 near enough bi-colour. On one occasion the dark dog was placed in the centre. That was deemed to be incorrect, by the visiting guru. The dark dog should go to the end. Why?. "Because it spoils the picture". I was furious, at a leading breeder, brought from Germany to Dublin, at great expense, suggesting German Shepherd Dogs be placed solely on coat colour, to present an overall **picture**. Something a 4 yearold child could do.

The 'Inner Circle' exerted tremendous influence, for two decades and by the early 80's converted the breed, at least at the Sieger Shows, into a sea of pastel yellow shades, some had near white markings, with just faint shadowy dark saddles. Pigmentation has vastly recovered since then, mainly through Quanto influence, with a lot of help from Marko line bitches, and is again adequate, but time will tell if the exclusion of very dark dogs, during the 70's, has had a deleterious effect on the breed, as a whole.

MARKO VA DESCENDANTS ;

1. Kai v. Silberbrand SZ=1234446 VA 73/4,
1. Asko v. d. Hattsteinburg SZ=1262825 VA 75/6
1. Eros v. Hambachtal SZ=1356030 VA 1976, '77, '78 and '79.
1. Norbo v Sturmwolke V
 2. Erko v. Hohen Eiche 1363407 SchH 2 VA 79/80
1. Jack Furstenberg V
 2. Gero v. Altör 1362598 SchH 3 VA 79/80

Mannheim 1979. The Sieger Show had just ended, the show ground had emptied and the traders were removing their stalls. With nothing further to experience I made my way to the Wartburg Hotel, HQ of a strong English speaking contingent. The foyer was crammed, people standing and sitting around, mostly English fanciers enjoying an after treat. Eros vom Hambachtal was in their midst and they were amongst the most ardent in his fan club. Exuding self-confidence he crept from lap, to lap, soaking up the adulation being lavished on him. I got into conversation with his owner, Frau Kaemmerling, eager to inform her I had a young son of Eros, Bingo von Bindes SZ=1431747, recently out of quarantine in Ireland. Yes, she remembered Bingo's mother, Sloopie von der Dorheimerhoehe SZ=1317191 SchH 1 V, a daughter of Ingo von Overhagen VA.

All weekend a rumour had persisted, that Eros had been sold to a Far Eastern buyer for a reported £ 40,000 Sterling. The price was not unrealistic, for one of the 'A' Klammle cavaliers had gone to the US for a reputed \$ 105,000. On mentioning the report, of Eros' imminent departure for the Far East, Frau Kaemmerling looked me straight in the eyes and very earnestly said, "There is not enough money in the world to buy Eros". She convinced me Eros was not for sale.

Two grandsons, Erko v. Hohen Eiche SZ=1363407 son of Norbo v. d. Sturmwolke and Gero v. Altor SZ=1362598, a son of Jack Furstenberg, both VA in 1979 and '80, bring Marko's male line to a close, but his genes are still liberally distributed among the females and have contributed, in no small measure, to the excellent anatomies which abound today.

MUTZ von der PELZTIERFARM (=fur animal farm)

Mutz was bred by Walter Jedamzik, the big man from St Leon-Rot. Mutz was owned by Dr Rummel, when he made it into the elite VA group and Vice Sieger. It has been stated he should, and would, have made Sieger, but for his owner officiating in the ring, on that day. The reverse, is more likely to be closer to the facts. Quite obviously, Mutz could have stayed longer in the paint shop, for an extra spray, or two, of dark colour would have done him no harm. He had a couple of very minor faults, his croup wasn't ideal and, as mentioned, he lacked pigmentation, as did several of his descendants.

Mutz has perpetuated that other Hettel Ueckermark line, that coming though Flora, which

has been drawn on repeatedly, to broaden the main line and prevent it from becoming over inbred. To a great extent, the problems of that ancient ancestor, Flora, have been eradicated. Several of Mutz's line have graded VA, but, to date, none have won the coveted Sieger title. The mid 90's have shown a marked diminution of the influence of his line, with none figuring among the nine VAs at Duisburg, in 1997. The forking of the main line by Quanto and Canto and again by Uran and Quando has produced so many very excellent dogs, crowding at the top, they have combined to push Mutz's line out of second and into about 4th place. That is not to say that the line is permanently eclipsed. Jalk v. d. Rheinhalde, 3 times VA, was his earliest son to hold out promise, but Jalk's star has long since descended, while his brother, Jonny von der Rheinhalde, who never made it into the VA class, has become the principal line from Mutz. Jonny's son, Gauner v. Grundel VA 76/8, did well for a time, but his sons have failed to produce. Another V son, Kuno v. Weitweg, has produced a tenuous line through V dogs, Nick v.d. Wienerau and Kim v Michelstadter Rathaus to Fando v. Sudblick VA 88/9 and his son, Ajax v. Haller Osning VA '93/4/5. This line has proved very popular in Britain, where scions of Jonny v. d. Rheinhalde have wielded very considerable influence. With one exception the remaining lines have faded from the limelight, leaving the task of perpetuating the Mutz line to, Jupp v. d. Haller Farm VA '78. His line was showing signs of faltering, until his grandson, Cello v.d. Romerau's enormous bulk loomed in sight. They eventually found a hollow for him to stand in, while doing the 'Limbo Rock' under that magical stick of centimetres. The SV Breed Standard may be written down, but is not writ in stone, which allows a little elasticity now and then. Breeders hoped to do a repeat of Vello zu den Sieben Faulen.

Although they got a good son, Atlas v. Bad Boll VA 92/3 and his son, Ursus v. d. Steinhagerquelle VA 94/5/6, there is nothing very positive about the prospects of the Mutz line, through Cello, at the present moment.

MUTZ VA DESCENDANTS

1. Anderl v. Kleinen Pfahl VA 73/4/5
1. Wacker v. d. Eiringsburg VA 75
1. Atlas v. Dannenwalder Grund VA 76
 2. Igor v. Hylligen-Born V
 3. Wanko v. d. Maaraue VA 81

- 3. Quino v. Hylligen-Born VA 81
- 3. Elch v. Steintal VA 82/3
- 1. Barry v. d. Stiftstrasse VA 79
- 1. Dock v. Kiefersheck VA 76/7
- 1. Hasso Grunen Laterne V
 - 2. Greif v. Bielkopf VA 76/7
- 1. Jory v.d. Grone V
 - 2. Jubel v. d. Murrenhutte VA 78
- 1. Erl v. Trappenberg VA 79
 - 2. Benny v. Heideloh VA 83
- 1. Jalk v. d. Rheinhalde VA 73/4/5
- 1. Jonny v.d. Rheinhalde V
 - 2. Gauner v. Grundel VA 76/8
 - 3. Dax v. Kopenkamp VA 80/1
 - 3. Bar v. Klosterbogen VA 80/2
 - 3. Watz v. Kopenkamp V
 - 4. Carlo v. d. Abtei Werden VA 81/2
 - 2. Lardo v. d. Haller Farm V
 - 3. Lauser v. d. Urbecke VA 81
 - 2. Hero v. Urbecke VA 80
 - 2. Lump v. Osterberger Land V
 - 3. Harko v. Hochantenne VA 82
 - 2. Kuno v. Weitweg V
 - 3. Nick v.d. Wienerau V
 - 4. Kim v Michelstadter Rathaus V
 - 5. Fando v. Sudblick VA 88/9
 - 6. Ajax v. Haller Osning VA 93/4/5
 - 2. Jupp v. d. Haller Farm VA 78
 - 3. Putz v. Arjakjo VA 84/5
 - 4. Karo v. Asbacher Land VA 86/7/8
 - 3. Dax v. d. Wienerau V
 - 4. Natz v. Hasenborn VA 83/4/5/6
 - 5. Cello v.d. Romerau V
 - 6. Atlas v. Bad Boll VA 92/3
 - 7. Ursus v. d. Steinhagerquelle VA 94/5/6
 - 6. Hoss v. Hasenborn VA 92/3/4
 - 6. Eros v. Luisenstrasse V
 - 7. Fello v. Farbenspiel VA 98
 - 7. Huppy v. Arlett VA 99

CANTO von der WIENERAU

Returning from the Sieger Show, in Munich 1978, we visited the clubhouse of Hemsbach Ortsgruppe, where we were greeted by the president of the club. He spoke some English, picked up while a prisoner-of-war. We anticipated a keen interest in the Sieger Show, just ended, partly because the new Sieger, Canto von Arminius, came from the next township down the road. Our host was unimpressed, dismissing the whole affair with one brief sentence, "Too many *saft* dogs at the Siegerschau".

'Mature reflection' on the sea of Canto von der Wienerau descendants there, lacking both pigment and character, would find no grounds to argue a contrary opinion.

The Martin brothers, Walter and Hermann, both deceased, pooled their talents to breed Canto's first notable son, Canto von Arminius VA in 74/5/6 and Sieger of 78, who possessed the anatomy, which was the prototype to lead the way for the following decade. Some German opinions held his litter brother, Casar, to be a better dog, but Casar didn't get the bitches and a fair chance to prove himself. It was said his owner discouraged owners of bitches, on enquiry for stud service, by insisting that the 'blood lines' would not be compatible. Anyhow the line of Casar v Arminius V, appears to have atrophied.

The most promising line from Canto v. Arminius, was through his V son, Sonny v Badener Land, to Tell v. Grossen Sand VA in 83/4/5/6 He was Vice Sieger in 85 and his sister, Tina, was Siegerin. It was a year of doubles, Uran was Sieger and his sister Vice Siegerin. Tell produced quite a few steep upper arms. I bought a very young son of his, Gildo von der Neuzenlache, bred by August Ketterer, Viernheim, and had him trained SchH 1 and breed surveyed 1a before he left. He was quarantined in Cambridge and I was rather disappointed when I saw him a year later. Tell's twice Sieger son, Fanto v. Hirschel and his son, Watz v Schornfels VA 92/3 keep hopes alive for the Canto von Arminius line. Frei v. Holtkamper See VA 76, through Zorro v. Haus Beck VA 81 and Lasso v Wiedenbrucker Land V, to Fedor v Arminius VA 87, has formed the strongest Canto v d Wienerau line. Fedor and more especially his son, Mark, were two dogs I greatly admired and would have loved to own, just wishful thinking. Where did Fedor get his dark pigmentation and masculinity from?. Hardly from great great grandfather Canto, more likely from Quanto for he appears **three times** on Fedor's pedigree, on the same rank with Canto. The massive contribution since made by Fedor and his son, Mark, has come as no surprise. Mark v Haus Beck VA 88/9, has produced a cluster of progeny who are producing extremely well in the mid nineties and appear well positioned to carry the breed well into the next millennium and 2nd century of the SV. Foremost among them is the very impressive Dutch bred Kimon v. Dan Alhedy's Hoeve the Sieger of '94 and Lasso v. Neuen Berg Sieger of '97.

CANTO VA DESCENDANTS

1. Mec v. Arminius V
 2. Vango v. Adeloga VA 80/1
 2. Ulan v. Adeloga V
 3. Onex v. Batu VA 82/4/5
1. Argus v. Klammle V
 2. Argus v. Aduct V
 3. Heiko v. Kottersbusch V
 4. Daus v. d. Fichtenspitze V
 5. Kevin v. Assaut VA 90/1/2
 2. Saro v d Wienerau V
 3. Yoll v. Adeloga VA 80/1/2
 2. Argus Aduct V
 3. Quarz v. Holtkampersee VA 82/3
1. Casar v Arminius V
 2. Apoll v. Haus Tigges VA 79 /80/1
 2. Dingo v. Haus Gero VA 82/3 Sieger
 3. Natz v. Arminius VA 84
 3. Hardy v. Fourniermuhlenbach VA 85/6/7
 3. Rambo v. Restrstrauch VA 86
1. Canto v. Arminius VA 74/5/6/8 Sieger
 2. Lesco Grubenstolz V
 3. Eros v. d. Malvenburg VA 77/8/9 Sieger
 2. Kanto v. Konigsstrassle VA 81
 2. Valk v. Michelstadter Rathaus VA 83/4/5
 2. Sonny v Badener Land V
 3. Tell v. Grossen Sand VA 83/4/5/6
 4. Fanto v. Hirschel VA 88/9/90
 1. Sieger/91 Sieger
 5. Watz v Schornfelsen VA 92/3
 4. Frei v. Hirschel V
 5. Amigo v. Belgier V
 6. Quartz d. Templari VA 99
 3. Orno v. Murratal VA 87
2. Lauser Adeloga V
 3. Zasko v. Monchberg VA 83/4
1. Frei v. Holtkamper See VA 76
 2. Jago v. Holtkamper See VA 78
 2. Zorro v. Haus Beck VA 81
 3. Lasso v Wiedenbrucker Land V
 4. Fedor v Arminius VA 87
 5. Jello v. d. Wienerau V
 6. Hanno v. d. Wienerau V
 5. Mark v Haus Beck VA 88/9
 6. Nickor v. d. Holledau VA 90/1/2
 6. Kimon v. Dan Alhedy's Hoeve VA 92/3/4 Sieger
 7. Karly v. Arminius VA 95/6/7/8
 8. Jello v. Michel' Rathaus VA 98/9
 6. Folen's Jasso
 7. Lasso v. Neuen Berg VA

94/5/6/7 Sieger

8. Jumbo v.d. Dolomiten VA 97

8. Enzo v. Buchhorn VA 98/9

6. Natz v. Monchberg V

7. Natz v. Steigerhof VA 95/6/7

QUANTO von der WIENERAU

To breed an internationally renowned champion would be every breeder's dream. To breed **two** world renowned German Shepherd Dogs, destined to form major branches of the family tree would be truly astounding. Well that was the achievement of the late Walter Martin, Viernheim, who bred both Canto and Quanto von der Wienerau. In all, Walter bred 363 registered litters, making his the best known kennel name world-wide.

Where Canto was lacking Quanto was sparkling. Being critical, he was perhaps a little too deep in the chest and he had a stubby croup, but his character and harmonious colouring were very, very pleasing.

His son, Dick v. Adeloga, quickly reached the top, in 1973 and again the following year, although denied the Sieger title. Two lines through Dick, Herzog v. Adeloga VA 76/7 and Eros v. Adeloga, who was a V dog, have wilted away. A third line through Grando v. Patersweg VA 77/8/9/80, has persisted through the unglamorous, that's for me, vom Trienzbachtal dogs, Elch VA 82/3, Fax V, Gundo VA 85 and Jack VA 89/90 to Cash v. Wildsteiger Land, who has equalled the record of five times VA, in 93/4/5/6/7

A V rated Quanto son, Reza v. d. Wienerau, started a promising line, in which we were keenly interested, as the mother of our 'L' litter, Trixi v Bubenlaching SchH 1 V was a grand daughter of Reza, through Valdo v Gigantenhaus SchH 3 V. Reza's son, Quax v. Bubenlaching VA 77, sired the most impressive Natan v. d. Pelztierfarm VA 81 and Sieger of 82 and again Sieger of 83. Resounding silence followed that crescendo.

Another V son, Cliff v Haus Beck, through V dogs Pirol v. Arminius and Irk v. Arminius leads down to the wonder dog of the 80's, Uran vom Wildsteiger Land VA in 83 and Sieger of 84 and Sieger of 85. Line continued.

On two occasions, 1976 and '77, the Swiss born Quanto son, Lasso di Val Sole, despite his apparent quality, trotted around the ring last in the VA class, showing there was a bias against dogs bred outside the Vaterland. The breadth and depth of quality, among Lasso's progeny, could not go on being

ignored. In '79 he moved up to 5th place in a class of 16. The following year, with 3 sons and 2 daughters, he provided 20 % of all the VA's at Bremen, with Axel v. d. Hainsterbach winning the Sieger title. Axel proved to be a cul-de-sac, as so many champions before him have done. Lasso's other VA sons have not fared much better. As so often has happened before, it fell to a lesser graded son to transmit the excellent qualities of his sire.

When Xaver v. Arminius V was introduced to the truly outstanding Palme v. Wildsteiger Land they produced Quando v. Arminius, who followed his half brother, Uran, to the Sieger title in '86 and '87. When the dust has settled on the heated discussions, over the dogs of the 80's, my bet, as always, stays on Quando, to outlast Uran and emerge as the true wonder dog of the 80's decade. He was the first dog in the breed, in my estimation, with a body so well balanced and proportioned that his anatomy left nothing more to be desired. Line continued.

QUANTO VA DESCENDANTS

1. Reza v. d. Wienerau V
 2. Quax v. Bubenlaching VA 77
 3. Natan v. d. Pelztierfarm VA 81/82
Sieger/3 Sieger
1. Dick v. Adeloga VA 73 Sieger/VA1 74
 2. Herzog v. Adeloga VA 76/7
 3. Veus v. Ecclesia Nova VA 78
 3. Cito v. Bergmannshof VA 81/2
2. Eros v. Adeloga V
 3. Gero v. d. Spargelhalle VA 78/9/80
2. Grando v. Patersweg VA 77/8/9/80
 3. Elch v. Trienzbachtal VA 82/3
 4. Fax v. Trienzbachtal V
 5. Gundo v. Trienzbachtal VA 85
 6. Don v. Lennefetal VA 88/9/90
 6. Jack v. Trienzbachtal VA 89/90
Cash's 5 VAs equals the record
 7. Cash v. Wildsteiger Land VA
93/4/5/6/7
1. Gundo v. Klosterbogen VA 74/5
1. Datscha v. Patersweg VA 75
1. Lasso di Val Sole VA 76 /7/9
 2. Ex v. Schlumborn VA 79/80
 3. Apoll v. Fliederbusch VA 84/5/6
 2. Axel v. d. Hainsterbach VA 80 Sieger
 2. Grimm Lehmbachtal VA 80
 2. Flory v. Eckkopf VA 81/2
 2. Xaver v. Arminius V
 3. Quando v. Arminius VA 85/6 Sieger/7
Sieger. Line continued
 3. Kanto v. Arminius VA 84/5
1. Lerry v. Neu-Edingen VA 79
 1. Gundo v. Modauquelle V
 2. Erk v. d. Treuen VA 77
 1. Reza v. Haus Beck. V
 2. Veit v. Konigsbruch VA 80/1/2
 2. Boss v. Kreuzbaum VA 82
 1. Vello v. Unterhain V
 2. Harko v. Bayernwaldperle VA 80
 2. Bill v. d. Topfergrube VA 81/2
 1. Rico Michelstadter Rathaus V
 2. Derby v. Adeloga VA 84/5
 1. Cliff v. Haus Beck V
 2. Jan v. Wiedenbrucker Land V
 3. Harras v. Sunderland VA 81
 2. Pirol v. Arminius V
 3. Irk v. Arminius V
 4. Uran v. Wildsteiger Land 83/4 Sieger/5
Sieger. Line continued

URAN vom WILDSTEIGER LAND

Martin Goebi, Schildschweig, Wildsteig, bred a litter on the 12-03-81 which contained a male, who fired the enthusiasm of the masses through the eighties. That dog was Uran v. Wildsteiger Land SchH 3 FH. He was 8th in the VA class two and a half years later, in Frankfurt. The following year, in Dortmund, he moved into pole position and in 1985 he dominated the Sieger Show, staged in Mannheim that year, with a one note samba on everyone's lips, Uran, Uran, Uran.

Bitches in oestrous were standing in line for him when he attained his majority (2 years) on the 12-03-83. From his stud work for the 18 months to the 05-09-84, the qualifying date for entry, 99 of his progeny were entered for the Sieger Show in 1985. From that entry, over 70 of his children followed him into the ring, the largest progeny group ever.

I heard but one dissenting voice, my German friend of "von Vierhundert Hertz", who is deeply imbued in 'bloodlines' and pedigrees. He vehemently disapproved of over-reliance on this dog. Personally, try as hard as I could, I never warmed to Uran, failing to see what all the excitement was about. My lack of feelings for him were recorded a long time ago, but what does one opinion count against a wave of popular adulation.

Excepting Eiko v. Kirschtal, Uran has failed to stamp masculinity on his male descendants and his line is drifting to the distaff side. Eiko, the Sieger of '88, was bred by Karl Fueller, Stettbach, a shepherd who has successfully combined working and showing dogs. He has bred and qualified so many dogs HGH (herding), that they must be working with his sheep day and night. He usually has 6 to 10 entered for the Sieger Show.

The Uran line continues, through Eiko to Yago v. Wildsteiger Land VA 90/1, to Ulk v. Arlett Sieger of '95, to Rikkor v. Bad Boll Sieger of '98/9 and his cousin, Shanto's Xano VA 96/7. In '99 Rikkor was also joined by half brother Vando v. Moorbeck VA.

Breeders have placed a huge vote of confidence in Ulk, to perpetuate this line. From 1990 to 1996 1,431 of his progeny were registered and 313 were *Angekoert*, that's a very high 21.9 %, indicating the quality is very high overall.

Other heavy hitters were Ajax v. Haller Osning (Mutz) with 1,114 and Nickor v. d. Holledau (Canto) with 1,089 progeny registered, but the percentages surveyed were well down, at 14 and 12 respectively. Visum v. Arminius, my favourite, had 1,103 progeny registered, with a respectable 232, or 21%, surveyed. Of course Visum came later than Ulk and was only coming to eminence in 1996, at the end of the survey.

URAN VA DESCENDANTS

1. Eiko v. Kirschtal VA 86/7/8 Sieger/ VA 89
2. Yago v. Wildsteiger Land VA 90/1
3. Ulk v. Arlett VA 93/4/5 Sieger
4. Rikkor v. Bad Boll VA 97/ Sieger 98/ Sieger 99
4. Vando v. Moorbeck VA 99
3. Flick v. Arlett V
4. Shanto's Xano VA 96/7
1. Yambo v. Wildsteiger Land VA 86/7/8

QUANDO von ARMINIUS

Without a shadow of doubt Quando's greatest son is Odin v. d. Tannenmeise from The Netherlands. He was Junghundklasse Sieger, in Hamburg, the first year his sire won the major title. He was 9th and last of the VAs on his next appearance, but, by golly, he was first when it came to transmitting excellence into the 1990's. He was let slip away, to the Far East, while still young, or he would have totally dominated the breed. Hope is the Japanese realised their good fortune and made good use of his talents. I must admit both of Odin's Sieger sons failed to excite me, least of all Zamb and a little dubious about Jeck, which shows how little I know, for Jeck is likely to remain the leader of his sireline. A line which has been hugely augmented by the recent accreditation of Leif von der Noriswand VA 3 in '98. Jeck sired, to me at any rate, the magnificent Visum v. Arminius, who won the Sieger title in '96, only days before the death of his breeder, Hermann Martin, Viernheim. He was the third World Champion bred by Hermann in 20 years. Hermann had an instinctive gift, or acumen, for breeding

dogs with well nigh perfect anatomies, ever since Canto, the von Arminius one that is. It is a great pleasure to see that Hermann's daughter, Waltraud, who used manage the kennels and dogs for him, is carrying on the tradition. She has a class act to follow. Good luck and success to her in her endeavours.

QUANDO VA DESCENDANTS

1. Iso v. Bergmannshof VA 87/8/89 Sieger
1. Enzo v. Burg Aliso V
2. Quanto v. Corolinas V.
3. Wanko v. Lippischen Norden V.
4. Timo v. Berrekasten VA 98/9
1. Cimbo v. d. Burg Reichenstein VA 90/1/2
1. Odin v. d. Tannenmeise VA 87/8
2. Zamb v. d. Wienerau VA 89/90/1/2 Sieger
3. Nero v. Hirschel VA 93/4
4. Odin v. Hirschel VA 97/8
3. Esko v. d. Wienerau VA 94/5/6
3. Chicko v. Lohner V
4. Wobo v. Larchenhain V
5. Jango v. Furstenberg VA 98/9
2. Jeck v. Noricum VA 89/90/1/2/3 Sieger
Equalled the record 5 times VA
3. Visum v. Arminius VA 94/5/6 Sieger
4. Max della Loggia del Mercanti VA 96
3. Apoll v. Laacher-Haus VA 95
3. Gusttl Wildsteiger Land V
4. Scott v. Deodatus VA 97
3. Hobby v. Gletschertopf V
4. Ursus v. Batu VA 98/9
3. Zito v. d. Noriswand V.
4. Sasko v. d. Noriswand V.
5. Leif v. d. Noriswand VA 97/8

Revised pedigree for Leif following DNA research.

THE FUTURE

Now permit me to do a little crystal ball gazing. There are several worthy contenders to lead the van, into the new millennium and second century, of the breed. Ranking the 4 main lines, in order of dominance, would place them as follows ;

- 1st** Quanto, Lasso, Xaver, Quando, Odin, Jeck, Visum.
- 2nd** Quanto, Cliff, Pirol, Irk, Uran, Eiko, Yago, Ulk, Rikkor.
- 3rd** Canto, Frei, Zorro, Lasso W L, Fedor, Mark, Kimon, Folen' Jasso, Lasso N Berg
- 4th** Mutz, Jonny, Jupp, Dax, Cello, Eros L'strasse, Fello Farbenspiel & Huppy Arlett.

The race is on, between the scions of Jeck and Ulk.

40 SIEGERS & VA DOGS

- Sieger 1899 Jorg von der Krone SZ=163
 1900 Hektor vom Schwaben SZ=13
 1901 Hektor vom Schwaben SZ=13
 1902 Peter v. Pritschen SZ=148
 1903 Roland vom Park SZ=245
 1904 Arlbert von Grafrath SZ=190
 1905 Beowulf Nahegau SZ=733
 1906 Roland vom Starkenburg SZ=1537
 1907 Roland vom Starkenburg SZ=1537
 1908 Luchs vom Karlsmund Wetzlar
 SZ=3371
 1909 Hettel Ueckermark SZ=3897 HGH
 1910 Tell von der Kriminalpolizei
 SZ=8770
 1911 Norbert vom Kohlwald SZ=9264 PH.
 1912 Norbert vom Kohlwald SZ=9264 PH.
 1913 Arno vom Eichenburg SZ=24876
 1914 to 1918 Interruption by World War I
 1919 Dolf vom Dusternbrook SZ=67486
 PH
 1920 Erich von Grafenwerth SZ=71141
 PH
 1921 Harras von der Juch SZ=67926 PH
 1922 Cito vom Bergerslust SZ=105327
 SchH
 1923 Cito vom Bergerslust SZ=105327
 SchH
 1924 Donar vom Overstolzen
 SZ=220839 SchH
 1925 Klodo vom Boxberg SZ=135239
 SchH
 1926 Erich vom Glockenbrink
 SZ=275752 SchH
 1927 Arko vom Sadowaberg SZ=253490.
 SchH
 1928 Erich vom Glockenbrink
 SZ=275752 SchH
 1929 Utz vom Haus Schuetting
 SZ=331999 Z. Pr.
 1930 Herold aus der Niederlausitz
 SZ=355573 SchH
 1931 Herold aus der Niederlausitz
 SZ=355573 SchH
 1932 Hussan vom Haus Schuetting
 SZ=375476
 1933 Odin vom Stolzenfels SZ=406023 Z.
 Pr.
 1934 Cuno vom Georgentor SZ=416055
 Z. Pr.
 1935 Jalk vom Pagensgrub SZ=443657
 Z. Pr.
 1936 Arras aus der Stadt Velbert.
 SZ=462958 Z. Pr.
 1937 Pfeffer v. Bern SZ=466407 MH.
 1938 in Cologne. No Sieger Title.
 Vorzuglich Auslese VA group inaugurated.
 Held vom Domschloss 472532 SchH 3
 Ferdl v. d. Secretainerie 458047 SchH 2
 Zar v. d. Starrenburg 474952 SchH 3
 Zito v. d. Brahmenau 4725467 SchH 2
 Gerhod v. d. Brahmenau 486926 SchH 2
 Dewet Preussenblut 449423 SchH 1
 Iwan v. Ruhrlandeck 470377 SchH 2
 1939 Show cancelled, due to outbreak of
 World War 2.
 1940 Show not scheduled. Heavy
 fighting on the Western Front
 1941 Held in Stuttgart on 30/31 August.
 Neander von Bern 525611 SchH 2
 Malte vom Nordkap 499070 SchH 3
 Amor vom Haus Ultra 524477 SchH 3
 Othello vom Bergnest 521788 SchH 3. MH 1
 Gnom vom Kalsmunttor 499204 SchH 3
 Baldur vom Befreiungsplatz 508689 SchH 3. MH 1
 Quell vom Dannersheim 509430 SchH 3
 Egon vom Badener-Hoehe 534932 SchH 3
 1942 in Aschaffenburg. Upgraded
 Sonderschau held on 18th October.
 Ex von der Hoellenquell 342399 SchH 3
 Eitel von der Badener-Hoehe 534933 SchH 3
 Onyx vom Forrellenbach 488233 SchH 3 FH
 Goetz vom Meisterrecht 539973 SchH 3
 Faust vom Busecker Schloss 537373 SchH 3
 Baldur vom Befreiungsplatz 508689 SchH 3. MH 1
 Rodrigo vom Haus Schuetting 535795 SchH 3
 Mix von der Hohenluft 491747 SchH 2
 Ingo vom Kranichsbrunn 509746 SchH 3
 1943 1944 1945 Collapse of Nazi
 Germany. No Sieger Shows held
 1946 in Hamburg
 (British Occupation Zone)
 Arry v. d. Gasenquelle 559181
 Lex Preussenblut 580285 SchH 1
 Harras v. Piastendamm 575321 SchH 3
 1946 in Munich
 (American Occupation Zone)
 Volker v. Sonnenstein 589901 SchH 1
 Cralo v. Haunstetten 574473 SchH 1

- Erلكonig v. Holzheimer Aichwald 553026 SchH 2
 Wacker v. Schaefergruss 558409 SchH 2
 Claus v. Haus Werle 569337 SchH 2.
 1947 in Hamburg
 (British Occupation Zone)
 Pirol v. d. Buchenhoehe 572905 SchH 2
 Arry v. d. Gasenquelle 559181 SchH 2
 Udilo Preussenblut 619931 SchH 1
 1947 in Stuttgart
 (American Occupation Zone)
 Pirol v. d. Buchenhoehe 572905 SchH 2
 Cralo v. Haunstetten 574473 SchH 2
 Claus v. Haus Werle 569337 SchH 2.
 Admiral v. Blasienberg 586107 SchH 1
 Arry v. Hofatsblick 584011 SchH 2
 Volker v. Sonnenstein 589901 SchH 2
 1948 reunited in Cologne
 Harras v. Piastendamm 575321 SchH 3
 Claus v. Haus Werle 569337 SchH 3.
 Quell v. Friedenholz 636811 SchH 3
 Vasall v. Schaefergruss 5584013
 Asso v. Eulengipfel 633946 SchH &
 Cralo v. Haunstetten 574473 SchH 2
 1949 in Karlsruhe
 Cralo v. Haunstetten 574473 SchH 2
 Larko v. d. Wotansburg 630974 SchH 2
 Olaf v. d. Hohen Fichte 637924 SchH 3.
 Axel v. d. Deininghauserheide 610210 SchH 3. DPH
 Fels v. Vogtlandshof 694572 SchH 3.
 Claus v. Haus Werle 569337 SchH 3.
 1950 in Bremen
 Munko v. d. Hohen Fichte 608944 SchH 3
 Asso v. Eulengipfel 633946 SchH 3 FH
 Rolf v. Osnabrucker Land 640721 SchH 3
 Axel v. d. Deininghauserheide 610210 SchH 3. DPH
 Fels v. Vogtlandshof 694572 SchH 3.
 1951 in Ludwigshafen
 Rolf v. Osnabrucker Land 640721 SchH 3
 Arno v. d. Pfaffenau 733090 SchH 3
 Drusus z. d. Sieben Faulen 730199 SchH 3
 Cito b. Denkmal 651769 SchH 3
 Atlas v. Dinas Eck 718943 SchH 3
 1952 in Dortmund
 Lido v. Friedlicchenheim 764298 SchH 3
 Bursche v. Pflingstugel 787577 SchH 2
 Beowulf v. Piastendamm 755654 SchH 2
 Galant v. Padulusquellen 783401 SchH 1
 Wolfhardt v. Holzheimer Eichwald 687123 SchH 2
 1953 in Munich
 Edo v. Gehrden Berg 757771 SchH 2
 Gero v. Sturhi Gau 808831 SchH 3. FH
 Galant v. Padulusquellen 783401 SchH 3
 Drusus z. d. Sieben Faulen 730199 SchH 3
 1954 in Hannover
- Lido v. Friedlicchenheim 764298 SchH 3
 Alf v. Nordfelsen 739163 SchH 3
 Bar v. Haus Carbo 788542 SchH 3
 Grimm v. Schloss Oeding 785773 SchH 2
 Lork v. d. Felsenklufft 799202 SchH 3 FH
 1955 in Frankfurt
 Sieger Alf v. Nordfelsen 739163 SchH 3
 Casar v.d. Malmannsheide 862862 SchH 2
 Hardt v. Stuveschacht 866378 SchH 1
 Bar v. Haus Carbo 788542 SchH 3
 Brando v. Tappenort 826244 SchH 3 FH
 Amor v. Haus Hoheide 826667 SchH 2
 1956 in Dortmund
 Sieger Hardt v. Stuveschacht 866378 SchH 1
 Casar v.d. Malmannsheide 862862 SchH 2
 Grimm v. Schloss Oeding 785773 SchH 3 FH
 Bar v. Haus Carbo 788542 SchH 3
 Arno v. Haus Gersie 874382 SchH 3
 Gero v. Sturhi Gau 808831 SchH 3. FH
 1957 in Hamburg
 Sieger Arno v. Haus Gersie 874382 SchH 3 FH
 Donar v. Firnsuppe 809666 SchH FH
 Condor v. Hohenstamm 892020 SchH 3 FH
 1958 in Frankfurt
 Sieger Condor v. Hohenstamm 892020 SchH 3 FH
 Arno v. Haus Schwingel 929866 SchH 3
 Casar v.d. Malmannsheide 862862 SchH 3 FH
 Hardt v. Stuveschacht 866378 SchH 3
 Karlo v. Hannastein 914833 SchH 2
 1959 in Karlsruhe
 Sieger Volker v. Zollgrenzschutz-Haus 925474
 SchH 3
 Condor v. Hohenstamm 892020 SchH 3 FH
 Bonno v. Bergertor 922452 SchH 2
 Jonny v. d. Riedperle SchH 3 FH
 Casar v.d. Malmannsheide 862862 SchH 3 FH
 Bar v. d. Weissen Pforte 934438 SchH 3.
 1960 in Dusseldorf
 Sieger Volker v. Zollgrenzschutz-Haus 925474
 SchH 3
 Axel v. Haus Stutterheim 931224 SchH 3 FH
 Bar v. d. Weissen Pforte 934438 SchH 3.
 Casar v.d. Malmannsheide 862862 SchH 3 FH
 Roon z. d. Sieben Faulen 961110 SchH 2
 Mutz a.d. Kuckstrasse 958988 SchH 1
 Greif v. Elkanhain 946598 SchH 3 FH.
 1961 in Frankfurt
 Sieger Veus v. d. Starrenburg 959904 SchH 3
 Roon z. d. Sieben Faulen 961110 SchH 3
 Mutz a.d. Kuckstrasse 958988 SchH 3
 Jalk v. Fichtenbrunnen 973652 SchH 3
 Axel v. Haus Stutterheim 931224 SchH 3 FH
 Zibu v. Haus Schuetting 971574 SchH 3
 Volker v. Zollgrenzschutz-Haus 925474 SchH 3.

- 1962 in Dusseldorf
 Sieger Mutz a.d. Kuckstrasse 958988 SchH 3
 Jalk v. Fohlenbrunnen 973652 SchH 3
 Witz v. Haus Schuetting 971570 SchH 2
 Ajax v. Haus Dexel 996023 SchH 2
 Axel v. Haus Stutterheim 931224 SchH 3 FH
 Zibu v. Haus Schuetting 971574 SchH 3
 1963 in Frankfurt
 Sieger Ajax v. Haus Dexel 996023 SchH 3
 Jalk v. Fohlenbrunnen 973652 SchH 3
 Zibu v. Haus Schuetting 971574 SchH 3
 Witz v. Haus Schuetting 971570 SchH 3
 Barry v. Riedgold 988986 SchH 3
 ? v. Gelnhauser Schlosschen 982034 SchH 2
 1964 in Cologne
 Sieger Zibu v. Haus Schuetting 971574 SchH 3
 Barry v. Riedgold 988986 SchH 3
 Droll v. Grafenkopf 1020628 SchH 3
 Jacko v. Bimohlen 1017472 SchH 3
 Ajax v. Haus Dexel 996023 SchH 3
 Hanko v. d. Hetschmuhle 1029585 SchH 2
 1965 in Mannheim
 Sieger Hanko v. d. Hetschmuhle 1029585 SchH 2
 Cyrus v. Baltikum 1014049 SchH 3 FH
 Basko v. Kalher Heide 1045002 SchH 2
 Condor v. Zollgrenzschutz-Haus 1038960 SchH 3
 Alf v. Convent 1044501 SchH 2
 Harras v. Furstenhugel 1038747 SchH 1
 1966 in Dusseldorf
 Sieger Basko v. Kalher Heide 1045002 SchH 3 FH
 Bodo v. Lierberg 1026197 SchH 3 FH
 Quido v. Haus Schuetting 1018923 SchH 3
 Claus v. Obergrombacher Schloss 1024450 SchH 3
 Condor v. Zollgrenzschutz-Haus 1038960 SchH 3 FH
 Lux v. Haus Schuetting 1051140 SchH 3 FH
 Dido v. d. Werther Konigsallee 1080206 SchH 2
 Sam v. d. Wienerau 1066647 SchH 2
 Fred v. Obergrombacher Schloss 1068486 SchH 3
 1967 in Mannheim
 Sieger Bodo v. Lierberg 1026197 SchH 3 FH
 Quax v. Haus Beck 1094400 SchH 3
 Bernd v. Lierberg 1026193 SchH 3 FH
 Cito v. Herforderring 1077464 SchH 2
 Cello a. d. Winsbergen 1058534 SchH 2
 1968 in Mannheim
 Sieger Dido v. d. Werther Konigsallee 1080206 SchH 3 FH
 >>>Caro v. Schaafgarten 1092688 SchH 2 <<<
 (Caro was later disqualified for deception of his HD status)
 Nick v. Dreimarkenstein 1109677 SchH 3
 Dago v. Schloss Dahlhausen 1033897 SchH 2
 Quax v. Haus Beck 1094400 SchH 3
 Abo v. Aspenweg 1088753 SchH 3
 Veus v. Fiemereck 1065564 SchH 3
 1969 in Mannheim
 Sieger Heiko v. Orannien Nassau 1112800 SchH 3
 Nick v. Dreimarkenstein 1109677 SchH 3
 Zigan v. d. Firnsuppe 1098779 SchH 2 FH
 Quanto v. d. Wienerau 1133695 SchH 2.
 Arras v. Haus Helma 1131467 SchH 3.
 Erol v. Haus Solms 1120383 SchH 3 FH.
 Rebell v. Haus Schuetting 1122615 SchH 2
 Frei v. d. Gugge 1112988 SchH 3 FH.
 Bert v. Haus Franken 1037761 SchH 3
 Bredo v. Lichtburghof 1136504 SchH 3
 1970 in Nuremberg
 Sieger Heiko v. Orannien Nassau 1112800 SchH 3
 Mutz v. d. Pelztierfarm 1122617 SchH 3
 Arras v. Haus Helma 1131467 SchH 3.
 Nick v. Dreimarkenstein 1109677 SchH 3
 Quanto v. d. Wienerau 1133695 SchH 2.
 Anderl v. Herzogbad 1064190 SchH 3
 Frei v. d. Gugge 1112988 SchH 3 FH.
 Hardt v. Spruhturm 1153293 SchH 2
 Marko v. Cellerland 1180323 SchH 2.
 1971 in Mannheim
 Sieger Arras v. Haus Helma 1131467 SchH 3
 Quanto v. d. Wienerau 1133695 SchH 2.
 Erko v. Dinkelland 1136711 SchH 3
 Marko v. Cellerland 1180323 SchH 2.
 Iwo v. Sudfeld 1152700 SchH 3
 Hero v. Lauerhof 1193521 SchH 1
 Hardt v. Spruhturm 1153293 SchH 2
 1972 in Bremen
 Sieger Marko v. Cellerland 1180323 SchH 3.
 Hero v. Lauerhof 1193521 SchH 1
 Kazan v. Benjoritohof NHSB 512516 SchH 2
 Reza v. d. Wienerau 1222459 SchH 3
 Hatto v. Zerndorfer-land 1188489 SchH 3
 Pascha v. d. Bayernwaldperle 1193001 SchH 2
 Quanto v. d. Wienerau 1133695 SchH 2.
 Iwo V. Sudfeld 1152700 SchH 3
 Hasso v. d. Grunen Laterne 1218203 SchH 3
 1973 in Munich
 Sieger Dick v. Adeloga 1233847 SchH 2
 Hero v. Lauerhof 1193521 SchH 1
 Kazan v. Benjoritohof NHSB 512516 SchH 2
 Marko v. Cellerland 1180323 SchH 3 .
 Hatto v. Zerndorfer-land 1188489 SchH 3
 Kai v. Silberbrand 1234446 SchH 3
 Titus v. Eschenzweig
 Gundo v. Klosterbogen 1225419 SchH 3 FH
 Ingo v. Overhagen 1235474 SchH 2
 Marck z. d. Sttocken 1234851 SchH 3 FH

1974 in Mannheim

Sieger title withheld	SIRE LINE.
Dick v. Adelog 1233847 SchH 3	Quanto
Canto v. Arminius 1277394 SchH 2	Canto
Arno v. Erlenbrunnen 1241603 SchH 3	
Anderl v. Kleinen Pfahl 1243707 SchH 3 FH INT	Mutz=Axel=Held=Alf
Gundo v. Klosterbogen 1225419 SchH 3 FH	Quanto
Datscha v. Patersweg 1261808 SchH 2	
Jalk v. d. Rheinhalde 1205748 SchH 2	Mutz
Kai v. Silberbrand 1234446 SchH 3	Marko
Gundo v. Stettener Schloss 1231931 SchH 2	

1975 in Essen Sieger title withheld

Canto v. Arminius 1277394 SchH 3	Canto
Wacker v. d. Eiringsburg 1236607 SchH 3 FH	Mutz
Arno v. Erlenbrunnen 1241603 SchH 3	
Bernd v. Holter Wald 1258538 SchH 2	
Asko v. d. Hattsteinburg 1262825 SchH 3	Marko
Gundo v. Klosterbogen 1225419 SchH 3 FH	Quanto
Datscha v. Patersweg 1261808 SchH 3	
Brix v. d. Pfaffenau 1262101 SchH 3	
Anderl v. Kleinen Pfahl 1243707 SchH 3 FH INT	Mutz
Arko v. Pflaumbachtal 1251486 SchH 3	Dolf=Vello
Jalk v. d. Rheinhalde 1205748 SchH 2	Mutz
Marck z. d. Stocken 1234851 SchH 3 FH	Arras.

1976 in Bremen Sieger title withheld

Arak v. d. Holledau 1270947 SchH 3 FH.	Hero=Jupp=Klodo
Asko v. d. Hattsteinburg 1262825 SchH 3	Marko
Atlas v. Dannenwalder Grund 1264662 SchH 3	Mutz
Canto v. Arminius 1277394 SchH 3	Canto
Dock v. Kiefersheck 1356030 SchH 3	Quino=Mutz
Eros v. Hambachtal 1356030 SchH 3	Marko
Frei v. Holtkamper See 1251829 SchH 3 FH	Canto
Gauner v. Grundel 1291444 SchH 3 FH	Jonny=Mutz
Greif v. Bielpopf 1284458 SchH 3	Hasso=Mutz
Herzog v. Adelog 1309656 SchH 3	Dick=Quanto
Lasso di Val Sole SHSB 1378829 SchH 2	Quanto

1977 in Mannheim Sieger title not awarded

Herzog v. Adelog 1309656 SchH 3	Dick=Quanto
Greif v. Bielpopf 1284458 SchH 3	Hasso=Mutz
Quax v. Bubenlachring 13238000 SchH 3 FH	Reza=Quanto
Eros v. Hambachtal 1356030 SchH 3	Marko
Arak v. d. Holledau 1270947 SchH 3 FH.	Hero=Jupp=Klodo
Dock v. Kiefersheck 1356030 SchH 3	Quino=Mutz
Marko v. Liboriusbrunnen 1313718 SchH 3 FH	Marck=Arras.
Eros v. d. Malvenburg 1347778 SchH 3	Lesco=Canto=Canto
Zorro v. d. Molenakker NHSB 804624 VH 2	
Grando v. Patersweg 1341017 SchH 3	Dick=Quanto
Erk v. d. Treuen 1353632 SchH 2	Gundo=Quanto
Lasso di Val Sole SHSB 1378829 SchH 3	Quanto

1978 in Munich

Sieger Canto v. Arminius 1277394 SchH 3	Canto
Eros v. d. Malvenburg 1347778 SchH 3	Lesco=Canto=Canto
Eros v. Hambachtal 1356030 SchH 3	Marko
Grando v. Patersweg 1341017 SchH 3	Dick=Quanto

- Veus v. Ecclesia Nova 1373283 SchH 3 FH Herzog=Dick=Quanto
 Gauner v. Grundel 1291444 SchH 3 FH Jonny=Mutz
 Erko v. Hohen Eiche 1363407 SchH 2 Norbo=Marko
 Marko v. Liboriusbrunnen 1313718 SchH 3 FH Marck=Arras.
 Berry v. d. Grone 1338538 SchH 3 Ebro > > > Hein Richterbach
 Jubel v. d. Murrenhutte 1361060 SchH 3 Jory=Mutz
 Gero v. d. Spargelhalle 1348370 SchH 3 FH Eros=Dick=Quanto
 Jupp v. d. Haller Farm 1339456 SchH 3 Jonny=Mutz
 Irk v. d. Wienerau 1363751 SchH 3 Pele=Fed=Nico=Veus=Alf
 Jago v. Holtkamper See 1353666 SchH 3 Frei=Canto
- 1979 in Mannheim
- Sieger Eros v. d. Malvenburg 1347778 SchH 3 Lesco=Canto=Canto
 Grando v. Patersweg 1341017 SchH 3 Dick=Quanto
 Gero v. d. Spargelhalle 1348370 SchH 3 FH Eros=Dick=Quanto
 Lerry v. Neu-Edingen 1409889 SchH 2 Quanto (>Marko distaff)
 Lasso di Val Sole SHSB 1378829 SchH 3 Quanto
 Erko v. Hohen Eiche 1363407 SchH 2 Norbo=Marko
 Apoll v. Haus Tigges 1381702 SchH 3 Casar=Canto
 Barry v. d. Stiftstrasse 1326187 SchH 3 FH Mutz
 Gero v. Altor 1362598 SchH 3 Jack=Marko
 Eros v. Hambachtal 1356030 SchH 3 Marko
 Erl v. Trappenberg 1393317 SchH 3 FH Mutz
 Ex v. Schlumborn 1395542 SchH 3 Lasso=Quanto
 Roland v. d. Wohrabrucke 1340369 SchH 3 FH Enno=Frei > Hein Richterbach
 Argus v. Schloss Rosenau 1328042 SchH 3 FH Argus=Canto
 Vango v. Adeloga 1403069 SchH 3 Mec=Canto
- 1980 in Bremen
- Sieger Axel v. d. Hainsterbach 1398353 SchH 3 Lasso=Quanto
 Grando v. Patersweg 1341017 SchH 3 Dick=Quanto
 Erko v. Hohen Eiche 1363407 SchH 2 Norbo=Marko
 Apoll v. Haus Tigges 1381702 SchH 3 Casar=Canto
 Veit v. Konigsbruch 1434986 SchH 3 Reza=Quanto
 Bar v. Klosterbogen 1404779 SchH 3 Gauner=Jonny=Mutz
 Harko v. Bayernwaldperle 1359288 SchH 3 Vello=Quanto
 Canto v. Overledingerland 1369825 SchH 3 Arko=Dolf=Vello
 Gero v. d. Spargelhalle 1348370 SchH 3 FH Eros=Dick=Quanto
 Yoll v. Adeloga 1412143 SchH 3 Saro=Argus=Canto
 Gero v. Altor 1362598 SchH 3 Jack=Marko
 Ex v. Schlumborn 1395542 SchH 3 Lasso=Quanto
 Dax v. Kopenkamp 1410702 SchH 3 Gauner=Jonny=Mutz
 Hero v. d. Urbecke 1417177 SchH 3 Jonny=Mutz
 Grimm v. Lehmbachtal 1431483 SchH 2 Lasso=Quanto
- 1981 in Mannheim
- Sieger Natan v. d. Pelztierfarm 1424616 SchH 3 Quax=Quanto
 Yoll v. Adeloga 1412143 SchH 3 Saro=Argus=Canto
 Carlo v. d. Abtei Werden 1456003 SchH 3 Watz=Gauner=Jonny=Mutz
 Apoll v. Haus Tigges 1381702 SchH 3 Casar=Canto
 Kanto v. Konigsstrasse 1459012 SchH 3 FH IP1 Canto=Canto
 Cito v. Bergmannshof 14567702 SchH 2 Maro=Herzog=Dick=Quanto
 Dax v. Kopenkamp 1410702 SchH 3 Gauner=Jonny=Mutz
 Veit v. Konigsbruch 1434986 SchH 3 Reza=Quanto
 Wasko v. d. Niersbrucke 1442691 SchH 2 Marko > Eros=Dago
 Harras v. Sunderland 1390615 SchH 3 Jan=Cliff=Quanto
 Wanko v. d. Maaraue 1439364 SchH 3 FH, IP3 Igor=Atlas=Mutz

Flory v. Eckkopf 1367534 SchH 3
 Quino v. Hylligen-Born 1447811 SchH 3 FH
 Bill v. d. Topfergrube 1390792 SchH 3
 Vango v. Adeloga 1403069 SchH 3
 Zorro v. Haus Beck 1399234 SchH 3
 Lauser v. d. Urbecke 1436600 SchH 3 FH

1982 in Munich

Sieger Natan v. d. Pelztierfarm 1424616 SchH 3
 Carlo v. d. Abtei Werden 1456003 SchH 3
 Veit v. Königsbruch 1434986 SchH 3
 Dingo v. Haus Gero 1449693 SchH 3
 Cito v. Bergmannshof 14567702 SchH 2
 Bill v. d. Topfergrube 1390792 SchH 3
 Onex v. Batu 1494567 SchH 3. FH. IP 3
 Flory v. Eckkopf 1367534 SchH 3
 Bar v. Klosterbogen 1404779 SchH 3
 Yoll v. Adeloga 1412143 SchH 3
 Elch v. Steintal 1489829 SchH 3
 Boss v. Kreuzbaum 1404586 SchH 3
 Elch v. Trienzbachtal 1439264 SchH 3
 Quarz v. Holtkampersee 1496136 SchH3 FH IP3
 Harko v. Hochantenne 1492183 SchH 3

1983 in Frankfurt am Main

Sieger Dingo v. Haus Gero 1449693 SchH 3
 Tell v. Grossen Sand 1523173 SchH 3
 Natan v. d. Pelztierfarm 1424616 SchH 3
 Zasko v. Monchberg 1453620 SchH 3
 Elch v. Trienzbachtal 1439264 SchH 3
 Elch v. Steintal 1489829 SchH 3
 Benny v. Heideloh 1502561 SchH 3 FH
 Uran v. Wildsteiger Land 1526694 SchH 3 FH
 Valk v. Michelstadter Rathaus 1531851 SchH3 FH
 Quarz v. Holtkampersee 1496136 SchH3 FH IP3
 Natz v. Hasenborn 1537382 SchH 3 FH IP 3

1984 in Dortmund

Sieger Uran v. Wildsteiger Land 1526694 SH3 FH
 Onex v. Batu 1494567 SchH 3. FH. IP 3
 Tell v. Grossen Sand 1523173 SchH 3
 Kanto v. Arminius 1542699 SchH 3
 Putz v. Arjakjo 1555841 SchH 3 FH IP 3
 Valk v. Michelstadter Rathaus 1531851 SchH 3 FH
 Natz v. Hasenborn 1537382 SchH 3 FH IP 3
 Derby v. Adeloga 1543628 SchH 3
 Zasko v. Monchberg 1453620 SchH 3
 Natz v. Arminius 1546823 SchH 3
 Argus v. Gronachtal 1426630 SchH 3
 Apoll v. Fliederbusch 1548386 SchH 3

1985 in Mannheim

Sieger Uran v. Wildsteiger Land 1526694 SchH3 FH.
 Tell v. Grossen Sand 1523173 SchH 3
 Onex v. Batu 1494567 SchH 3. FH. IP 3
 Natz v. Hasenborn 1537382 SchH 3 FH IP 3
 Quando v. Arminius 1547134 SchH 3 IP 3
 Valk v. Michelstadter Rathaus 1531851 SchH3 FH

Lasso=Quanto
 Igor=Atlas=Mutz
 Vello=Quanto
 Mec=Canto
 Frei=Canto
 Lardo=Jonny=Mutz
 Quax=Reza=Quanto
 Watz=Gauner=Jonny=Mutz
 Reza=Quanto
 Casar=Canto
 Maro=Herzog=Dick=Quanto
 Vello=Quanto
 Ulan=Mec=Jago=Canto
 Lasso=Quanto
 Gauner=Jonny=Mutz
 Saro=Argus=Canto
 Igor=Atlas=Mutz
 Reza=Quanto
 Grando=Dick=Quanto
 Argus=Argus=Canto
 Lump=Jonny=Mutz

Casar=Canto
 Sonny=Canto=Canto
 Quax=Reza=Quanto
 Lauser=Canto=Canto
 Grando=Dick=Quanto
 Igor=Atlas=Mutz
 Erl=Mutz
 Irk=Pirol=Cliff=Quanto
 Canto=Canto
 Argus=Argus=Canto
 Dax=Jupp=Jonny=Mutz

Irk=Pirol=Cliff=Quanto
 Ulan=Mec=Jago=Canto
 Sonny=Canto=Canto
 Xaver=Lasso=Quanto
 Jupp=Jonny=Mutz
 Canto=Canto
 Dax=Jupp=Jonny=Mutz
 Rico=Quanto
 Lauser=Canto=Canto
 Dingo=Casar=Canto
 Vax=Irk=Pele
 Ex=Lasso=Quanto

Irk=Pirol=Cliff=Quanto
 Sonny=Canto=Canto
 Ulan=Mec=Jago=Canto
 Dax=Jupp=Jonny=Mutz
 Xaver=Lasso=Quanto
 Canto=Canto

Gundo v. Trienzbachtal 1584215 SchH 2 FH	Fax=Elch=Gundo=Dick=Quanto
Putz v. Arjakjo 1555841 SchH 3 FH IP 3	Jupp=Jonny=Mutz
Kanto v. Arminius 1542699 SchH 3	Xaver=Lasso=Quanto
Apoll v. Fliederbusch 1548386 SchH 3	Ex=Lasso=Quanto
Hardy v. Fourniermuhlenbach 1577235 SchH 3 IP 3	Dingo=Casar=Canto
Derby v. Adeloga 1543628 SchH 3	Rico=Quanto
Argus v. Gronachtal 1426630 SchH 3	Vax=Irk=Pele >Nico
1986 in Hamburg	
Sieger Quando v. Arminius 1547134 SchH3 IP3	Xaver=Lasso=Quanto
Natz v. Hasenborn 1537382 SchH 3 FH IP 3	Dax=Jupp=Jonny=Mutz
Eiko v. Kirschtal 1607402 SchH 3 FH	Uran
Rambo v. Restrstrauch 1575151 SchH 3	Dingo=Casar=Canto
Tell v. Grossen Sand 1523173 SchH 3	Sonny=Canto=Canto
Hardy v. Fourniermuhlenbach 1577235 SchH 3 IP 3	Dingo=Casar=Canto
Apoll v. Fliederbusch 1548386 SchH 3	Ex=Lasso=Quanto
Argus v. Gronachtal 1426630 SchH 3	Vax=Irk=Pele >Nico
Yambo v. Wildsteiger Land 1586042 SchH 3 FH.	Uran
Karo v. Asbacher Land 1628195 SchH 3. FH. IP 3	Putz=Jupp=Jonny=Mutz
1987 in Duisburg	
Sieger Quando v. Arminius 1547134 SchH3 IP3	Xaver=Lasso=Quanto
Eiko v. Kirschtal 1607402 SchH 3 FH	Uran
Karo v. Asbacher Land 1628195 SchH 3. FH. IP 3	Putz=Jupp=Jonny=Mutz
Orno v. Murrthal 1644237 SchH 3	Sonny=Canto=Canto
Rambo v. Restrstrauch 1575151 SchH 3	Dingo=Casar=Canto
Yambo v. Wildsteiger Land 1586042 SchH 3 FH	Uran
Fedor v. Arminius 1592045 SchH 3	Lasso(Wieden) >Canto
Iso v. Bergmannshof 1642314 SchH 3 FH	Quando
Odin v. Tannenmeise 1655056` SchH 3 FH	Quando
1988 in Bremen	
Sieger Eiko v. Kirschtal 1607402 SchH 3 FH	Uran
Iso v. Bergmannshof 1642314 SchH 3 FH	Quando
Karo v. Asbacher Land 1628195 SchH3. FH. IP 3	Putz=Jupp=Jonny=Mutz
Yambo v. Wildsteiger Land 1586042 SchH 3 FH.	Uran
Mark v. Haus Beck 1669141 SchH 3	Fedor=Lasso(Wieden) >Canto
Odin v. Tannenmeise 1655056` SchH 3 FH	Quando
Fanto v. Hirschel 1668730 SchH 3	Tell=Sonny=Canto=Canto
Fando v. Sudblick 1675961 SchH 3	Kim=Nick=Kuno=Jonny=Mutz
Don v. Lennefetal 1668047 SchH 3	Gundo=Fax=Elch > > Quanto
1989 in Karlsruhe	
Sieger Iso v. Bergmannshof 1642314 SchH 3 FH	Quando
Fanto v. Hirschel 1668730 SchH 3	Tell=Sonny=Canto=Canto
Eiko v. Kirschtal 1607402 SchH 3 FH	Uran
Mark v. Haus Beck 1669141 SchH 3	Fedor=Lasso(Wieden) >Canto
Don v. Lennefetal 1668047 SchH 3	Gundo=Fax=Elch > > Quanto
Jack v. Trienzbachtal 1680443 SchH33	Gundo=Fax=Elch > > Quanto
Zamb v. d. Wienerau 1696277 SchH 3	Odin=Quando
Fando v. Sudblick 1675961 SchH 3	Kim=Nick=Kuno=Jonny=Mutz
Jeck v. Noricum 1705812 SchH 3	Odin=Quando
1990 in Frankfurt am Main	
Sieger Fanto v. Hirschel 1668730 SchH 3	Tell=Sonny=Canto=Canto
Jack v. Trienzbachtal 1680443 SchH33	Gundo=Fax=Elch > > Quanto
Don v. Lennefetal 1668047 SchH 3	Gundo=Fax=Elch > > Quanto
Zamb v. d. Wienerau 1696277 SchH 3	Odin=Quando
Nickor v. Holledau 1730465 SchH 3 FH	Mark=Fedor > > > Canto

Jeck v. Noricum 1705812 SchH 3	Odin=Quando
Cimbo v. d. Burg Reichenstein 1721176 SchH3 FH	Quando
Kevin v. Assaut 1711820 SchH 2	Daus=Heiko > > Canto
Yago v. Wildsteiger Land 1702119 SchH 2	Eiko=Uran
1991 in Karlsruhe	
Sieger Fanto v. Hirschel 1668730 SchH 3	Tell=Sonny=Canto=Canto
Zamb v. d. Wienerau 1696277 SchH 3	Odin=Quando
Jeck v. Noricum 1705812 SchH 3	Odin=Quando
Nickor v. Holledau 1730465 SchH 3 FH	Mark=Fedor > > > Canto
Yago v. Wildsteiger Land 1702119 SchH 2	Eiko=Uran
Kevin v. Assaut 1711820 SchH 2	Daus=Heiko > > Canto
Atlas v. Bad Boll 1742880 SchH 3	Cello=Dax=Jupp=Jonny=Mutz
Cimbo v. d. Burg Reichenstein 1721176 SchH3 FH	Quando
Hoss v. Hasenborn 1753395 SchH 3	Cello=Dax=Jupp=Jonny=Mutz
1992 in Dusseldorf	
Sieger Zamb v. d. Wienerau 1696277 SchH 3	Odin=Quando
Jeck v. Noricum 1705812 SchH 3	Odin=Quando
Nickor v. Holledau 1730465 SchH 3 FH	Mark=Fedor > > > Canto
Cimbo v. d. Burg Reichenstein 1721176 SchH3 FH	Quando
Atlas v. Bad Boll 1742880 SchH 3	Cello=Dax=Jupp=Jonny=Mutz
Hoss v. Hasenborn 1753395 SchH 3	Cello=Dax=Jupp=Jonny=Mutz
Kimon v. Dan Alhedy's Hoeve 1788156 SchH 3	Mark=Fedor > > > Canto
Kevin v. Assaut 1711820 SchH 3	Daus=Heiko > > Canto
Watz v. Schornfelsen 1740826 SchH 3	Fanto=Tell=Sonny=Canto=Canto
1993 in Dortmund	
Sieger Jeck v. Noricum 1705812 SchH 3	Odin=Quando
Atlas v. Bad Boll 1742880 SchH 3	Cello=Dax=Jupp=Jonny=Mutz
Hoss v. Hasenborn 1753395 SchH 3	Cello=Dax=Jupp=Jonny=Mutz
Kimon v. Dan Alhedy's Hoeve 1788156 SchH 3	Mark=Fedor > > > Canto
Watz v. Schornfelsen 1740826 SchH 3	Fanto=Tell=Sonny=Canto=Canto
Ulk v. Arlett 1769704 SchH 3	Yago=Eiko=Uran
Ajax v. Haller Osning SchH 3 FH	Fando=Kim=Nick > > Mutz
Nero v. Hirschel 1783907 SchH 3	Zamb=Odin=Quando
Cash v. Wildsteiger Land 1793773 SchH 3	Jack=Gundo > > > > Quanto
1994 in Bremen	
Sieger Kimon v. Dan Alhedy's Hoeve/1788156 SchH 3	Mark=Fedor > > > Canto
Ulk v. Arlett 1769704 SchH 3	Yago=Eiko=Uran
Hoss v. Hasenborn 1753395 SchH 3	Cello=Dax=Jupp=Jonny=Mutz
Visum v. Arminius 1789549 SchH 3 FH	Jeck=Odin=Quando
Nero v. Hirschel 1783907 SchH 3	Zamb=Odin=Quando
Cash v. Wildsteiger Land 1793773 SchH 3	Jack=Gundo > > > > Quanto
Ajax v. Haller Osning SchH 3 FH	Fando=Kim > > > > Mutz
Esko v. d. Wienerau 11834286 SchH 3	Zamb=Odin=Quando
Lasso v. Neuen Berg 1820256 SchH 3	Folen' Jasso=Mark > > > > Canto
Ursus v. d. Steinhagerquelle 1834186 SchH 3	Atlas=Cello=Natz=Dax > Mutz
1995 in Hamburg	
Sieger Ulk v. Arlett 1769704 SchH 3	Yago=Eiko=Uran
Visum v. Arminius 1789549 SchH 3 FH	Jeck=Odin=Quando
Cash v. Wildsteiger Land 1793773 SchH 3	Jack=Gundo > > > > Quanto
Lasso v. Neuen Berg 1820256 SchH 3	Folen' Jasso=Mark > > > > Canto
Ajax v. Haller Osning SchH 3 FH	Fando=Kim=Nick > > Mutz
Esko v. d. Wienerau 11834286 SchH 3	Zamb=Odin=Quando
Ursus v. d. Steinhagerquelle 1834186 SchH 3	Atlas=Cello=Natz=Dax > Mutz
Karly v. Arminius 1829910 SchH 3 FH	Kimon=Mark=Fedor > > > Canto

- Natz v. Steigerhof 1841632 SchH 3
 Apoll v. Laacher-Haus 1780076 SchH 3 FH IP 3
 1996 in Karlsruhe
 Sieger Visum v. Arminius 1789549 SchH 3 FH
 Cash v. Wildsteiger Land 1793773 SchH 3
 Lasso v. Neuen Berg 1820256 SchH 3
 Karly v. Arminius 1829910 SchH 3 FH
 Esko v. d. Wienerau 11834286 SchH 3
 Ursus v. d. Steinhagerquelle 1834186 SchH 3
 Natz v. Steigerhof 1841632 SchH 3
 Max della Loggia del Mercanti 1944110 SchH 3
 Shanto's Xano 1970074 SchH 3
 1997 in Duesseldorf
 Sieger Lasso v. Neuen Berg 1820256 SchH 3
 Karly v. Arminius 1829910 SchH 3 FH
 Cash v. Wildsteiger Land 1793773 SchH 3
 Natz v. Steigerhof 1841632 SchH 3
 Shanto's Xano 1970074 SchH 3
 Jumbo v.d. Dolomiten 1955083 SchH 3
 Rikkor v. Bad Boll 1919865 SchH 3 FH
 Odin v. Hirschel 1925447 SchH 3
 Leif v. d. Noriswand 1926916 SchH 3
 Scott v. Deodatus 1925848 SchH 3 FH
 1998 in Nuremberg
 Sieger Rikkor v. Bad Boll 1919865 SchH 3 FH
 Karly v. Arminius 1829910 SchH 3 FH
 Leif v. d. Noriswand 1926916 SchH 3
 Odin v. Hirschel 1925447 SchH 3
 Jango v. Fuerstenberg 1896845 SchH 3
 Timo v. Berrekasten 1969122 SchH 3
 Jello v. Michelstadter Rathaus 1920002 SchH 3
 Fello v. Farbenspiel 1927216 SchH 3
 Enzo v. Buchhorn 1930146 SchH 3
 Ursus v. Batu 1932624 SchH 3
 1999 in Karlsruhe.
 Sieger Rikkor v. Bad Boll 1919865 SchH 3 FH
 Jango v. Fuerstenberg 1896845 SchH 3
 Ursus v. Batu 1932624 SchH 3
 Timo v. Berrekasten 1969122 SchH 3
 Jello v. Michelstadter Rathaus 1920002 SchH 3
 Enzo v. Buchhorn 1930146 SchH 3
 Quartz del Templari 1922184 SchH 3
 Huppy v. Arlett 1964660 SchH 3
 Vando v. Moorbeck 1905990 SchH 3
 Natz=Mark=Fedor > > >Canto
 Jeck=Odin=Quando
 Jeck=Odin=Quando
 Jack=Gundo > > > Quanto
 Folen' Jasso=Mark > > >Canto
 Kimon=Mark > > >Canto
 Zamb=Odin=Quando
 Atlas=Cello=Natz=Dax > Mutz
 Natz=Mark=Fedor > > >Canto
 Visum=JecK=Odin=Quando
 Flick=Yago=Eiko=Uran
 Folen' Jasso=Mark > > >Canto
 Kimon=Mark=Fedor=Lasso >Canto
 Jack=Gundo > > > Quanto
 Natz=Mark=Fedor > > >Canto
 Flick=Yago=Eiko=Uran
 Lasso=Jasso=Mark > > > Canto
 Ulk=Yago=Eiko=Uran
 Nero=Zamb=Odin=Quando
 Sasko=Zito Noriswand=Jeck
 Gusttl=Jeck=Odin=Quando
 Ulk=Yago=Eiko=Uran
 Kimon=Mark=Fedor > > >Canto
 Sasko=Zito Noriswand=Jeck
 Nero=Zamb=Odin=Quando
 Wobo=Chicko=Zamb > Quando
 Cor=Enzo=Quando.
 Karly=Kimon=Mark > > > >Canto
 Eros Luis=Cello=Natz=Dax >>Mutz
 Lasso=F'Jasso=Mark >> >>Canto
 Hobby=Jeck=Odin=Quando
 Ulk=Yago=Eiko=Uran.
 Wobo=Chicko=Zamb > Quando.
 Hobby=Jeck=Odin=Quando.
 Wanko=Quando Cor=Enzo=Quando.
 Karly=Kimon=Mark > > > >Canto.
 Lasso=F'Jasso=Mark >> >>Canto.
 Amigo Belgier=Frei=Tell >Canto
 Eros Luis=Cello=Natz=Dax >>Mutz
 Ulk=Yago=Eiko=Uran

42 THE SIEGER SHOW

Whenever and wherever GSD enthusiasts foregather, one is likely to hear the question, "Are you going to the Sieger this year?". What is referred to is the main breed show of the SV. Bundessiegerhauptzuchtchau, to give it its full title. An annual event, but the venue is rotated around Germany. A tradition has grown to stage it around the end of August and beginning of September.

The Sieger Show was started in 1899, the year the SV was founded. It soon became very popular with breeders and fanciers, who were prepared to travel very long distances to see the best specimens of the breed and breeders also found it was an excellent showcase, in which to display their wares to the world. There have been 3 interruptions, by war. There were no shows from 1914 to 1918 inclusive, while Rittmeister von Stephanitz was away on active service. There was no show during 1939 and '40 and again from 1943 to '45 inclusive, due to the second World War.

A large arena is required to stage the show, which is attended, on average, by 50,000 people and 1,000 dogs. Usually the venue is the stadium of a major football club, with adjoining sports fields and plenty of parking space. Munich has been the odd one out, where the show is held in the arena provided for equestrian events at the 1972 Olympics. Another essential is a conference hall which can seat 4,000 at table, for the Saturday night Begrueßungabend.

The show will have nine rings, 3 times as many as Barnum Bailey's circus, and a large trade fair. The ground plan will be something like this, main arena divided for the two adult classes, male and female and on adjacent playing fields the four rings for the two junior classes for each sex, perhaps at some short distance away there will be two fenced enclosures, where the dogs from the adult classes undergo testing for courage and finally a ring for, "Dogs actively engaged in sheep herding". Personally this class holds no interest. It is a mere sop to the breed's original occupation. There will be no work done with sheep, that is at a separate event called a Leistungshuette, held later in the year.

If you are there on the first day, ask for a *drei tage karte*, 3 day ticket, it will be cheaper. To derive the most benefit from a visit, a schedule must be

worked out, of what you want to see, which can be fitted in between the main events. Remember the Germans start early and finish early. At the front of the catalogue, look for a schedule of events, in English, which will run something like this;

Thurs	16.00-18.00	Handing out of start numbers.
Friday	07.00.	Dogs are admitted.
	07.30	Judging, all classes, commences including courage testing and herding classes.
Sat.	07.00.	Dogs are admitted. No courage testing today.
	08.00.	Rating of groups of descendants. (Progeny groups).
	11.30.	Judging resumed, all classes.
	20.00.	Welcome at the congress hall.
Sunday	07.00.	Dogs are admitted.
	08.00.	Judging of all classes resumed.
approx.	14.30.	Breed group competition. (Kennel groups).
approx.	15.30.	Victory ceremony. Siegerehrung.

Day one, Friday, is largely given over to checking and accreditation. Each dog must have all the documentation correct and in order, pedigree, Show entry, etc. and have a valid veterinary certificate of rabies vaccination within the previous twelve months. When the dog is admitted the handler is issued a large number to be worn front and back on the torso, which must be returned undamaged at the end of the show. Otherwise pay a penalty of 20 Marks. The number worn corresponds to the catalogue number and has four digits, the first digit is also the class ring number, from 1 to 6. From that first digit the age and sex of the dog can be deduced. The uneven numbers 1, 3 and 5 are male classes Adult, Young dog and Youth and the even numbered rings 2, 4 and 6 are for female classes, Adult, Young bitch and Youth. The ages relating to those classes are, Adults are over 2 years, Young dog/bitch are 18 to 24 months and Youth class are 12 to 18 months. There are no puppy classes at the Sieger Show. The Germans pay little attention to Puppy Classes (under 12 months), because the dogs are insufficiently developed.

As the day progresses preliminary work will go on in all six main judging rings. The dogs are measured for height and males checked for testicles.

There is a dental examination, as perfect dentition is a prerequisite for high placing. All of that is recorded.

At the start dogs are assembled in catalogued numerical order and sent around the ring, walking or at a trot, while each judge struggles with the task of getting a couple of hundred dogs roughly into an order of merit. Classes are then broken into subsections for ease of management. Perhaps 6 to 8 fractions of 20 to 30 dogs

With that accomplished the judge works methodically first placing the last dog and working from that up. There is so much going on, don't waste time watching the mediocre. They are destined for oblivion. When you approach a ring, ask a bystander which "ring" is being judged. The Germans refer to the fractions as, 'Rings'.

All dogs and bitches, competing in the adult classes, must undergo a test of courage satisfactorily. From Friday morning they make their way to two special enclosures to be tested. The test is in two parts. Part 1. The dog and handler, followed by the assessor, approach a tepee style hiding place concealing the "helper", who is watching through a slit. On a signal from the assessor the helper, who is wearing a padded suit, rushes out and brandishing a light cane feigns an attack. The dog is slipped off the leash and is expected to counter the threat of violence, by gripping the assailant by the arm and bringing him to a standstill. When the dog has sufficiently displayed his courage, the 'assailant' ceases to struggle and going limp, indicates submission. Then the dog should release the grip, or must do so **at once** on a single command, "Aus". Should the dog fart off and fail to protect his handler he has failed the test and despite all his "structural beauty" will be given a place at the rear end of the class. Dogs can have a bad day. Gauner v. Grundel 1291444 SchH 3. FH. VA. failed on one occasion.

The second part. While a dog may be very brave, with the handler in close support the dog may lack the confidence, to cope with a threat of violence, when distant from the handler. For this test a second 'helper' comes on the scene, about 50 metres away, making threatening gestures and noises. The dog is again released to deal with the threat and should cover the intervening space at maximum speed, without wavering, or slackening off. The encounter is spectacular, as dog and man meet head-on, the dog tackling in a flying leap, gripping the proffered *armel*. The helper must then

do some very fancy footwork, to maintain his balance and land the dog back on his paws, **without** wrenching out any of the dog's teeth.

The 'helpers' are paid around one DM per test and wearing those suits they earn every pfennig of it. The really good dogs are thrilling to watch. They would die defending their handler. They break off combat instantly, but remain tight as tuppence in a miser's purse, close to the 'helper', squatting on their hocks, ready to spring, if the fellow is foolish enough to resume hostilities. They leave no doubt of the courageous nature of the GSD, when making a measured response, to a threat of violence.

For the dedicated breeder, the progeny groups are the main attraction. All activity in the ancillary rings is suspended and concentrated in the main arena. Groups must attain a minimum number, possibly 12, and all in a group must be entered, present and exhibited. The sire of a group need not be present, but is an added bonus if he is. The vast majority of dogs present will be entered in one or another progeny group. Working from the smallest to the largest group, running in single file, a group enters and does a lap of the arena, to show their paces. Then stands while the breed master gives a critique on the group's strong points and shortcomings. If the sire had a group the previous year, remarks will be made on whether this group is showing improvement, or deterioration.

The commentary is now given in 4 languages, including English, which is a great help since it was solely *auf Deutsche* and coming over the public address system, difficult to follow, unless one's knowledge of German was very good. The information is of inestimable value to breeders planning matings with any of the sires. Whether a stud dog's star is ascending, or descending, can be gauged from his progeny group, much sooner and more reliably than by his own placing and awards in the show ring.

The Zwingergruppen, or Kennel groups contest held on Sunday would be hard to beat for colour and pageantry, which the Germans love and excel at. Two to three dozen of the top breeders in Europe compete for having bred the best group of six animals at the show. Preceded by a youthful pennant bearer with the kennel name held high, the dogs and handlers, in phalanxes, enter and circle the arena changing the solid green to a kaleidoscope of colour, for all group member are dressed in identical coloured track suits and each group is a different hue of the rainbow.

The evening shadows are lengthening when the band strikes up for the march of the gladiators and the winners and top ranking dogs, to about 25th place in each class march in, preceded by colour parties bearing flags and banners of the nations. Row on row and rank on rank they march around the arena and go to their appointed stations in a choreographed display, which shows their innate Germanic flair for precision and orderliness.

The focal point is an Olympics style podium, double sided. On the right the Sieger, Vice Sieger and VA 3. On the left the Siegerin, Vice Siegerin and VA 3 bitch and trailing away, at ground level on both sides, the remaining VA's and top V's, supported by the top echelons of SG's from the other four classes, some of whom are bound to be back again next year and future years, in higher placings of VA and V, for the breed is ever changing ever onward moving.

Attending the show presents an opportunity of joining and becoming a member of the SV. That will set you back approximately DM 90. Make sure to get the issue of the Zeitung for next December, for ALL the critiques will be in it and plenty of colour photos and breeding charts for every VA and V dog and bitch at the show. In much better poses than you were able to 'snap' from the ringside.

The trade stands are worth a visit, if only to view the range and variety of goods on offer, to entice money out of the pockets of dog owners. Early on Friday is a good time, before the serious stuff starts. Wait until afternoon to make purchases and save toting packages around. If you are fond of striking a hard bargain and buying in bulk, say lots of 10, then late on Sunday is the time for you. Rather than bring the stuff back home with them most traders will give a good discount.

Don't forget to pick up a result sheet, its called a Bewertungsliste, which will show the placing of every dog there. In my experience the issuing of these sheets after the show was the one and only place the SV fell down. There is absolutely no sense of 'standing in line', or queuing, in Germany. On a number of occasions, there were mob scenes, as crowds gathered around the dispensing outlets, with very real risk of serious injury. Certainly no place for the physically weak to be. A much better idea is to go earlier to the SV shop and give your name and address and for a couple of Marks, have them post a few copies to you.

If at all possible extend the trip, by a couple of days, to go sightseeing in the city and soak up some of the German culture, *Wiener schnitzels* and the *bier* and even the ladies have been known to visit Jockenstrappenstrasse, to see the carryon there.

Depending on the location of the venue, the local scenery is a **must**. Northern Germany is not so hot, but if opportunity permits, a day trip on the Middle Rhein, to the Lorelei where the legendary sirens lured the unwary boatmen to their doom, is fantastic. Further South Heidelberg is well worth a visit. The Black Forest is within range of Karlsruhe. And Bavaria. Ah, Bavaria. A lifetime could be spent there. Visiting Dachau might be depressing, but will be informative. Everyone should visit a concentration camp to see what we gain when we lose democracy. Poor (unfortunate) Ludwig's fairy tale castle, Neuschwannstein, would be a good antidote for the feelings of depression from Dachau. A trip to the top of the Zugspitze, Germany's highest peak at around 3,000 m. by cable car, are just a few of the possibilities to dream about.

43 DOG PHOTOGRAPHY

Dogs are favourite subjects for photographers, of all grades, who expose film by the hectare trying to make lasting impressions of the creatures they admire. All too often the prints don't do justice to the subject. Being living creatures, with volatile expressions, dogs are among the most difficult subjects for the photographer to take on. What can one say when asked for comment, as I have been, when the object of the owner's pride and joy is eating with his head in a bucket, or lying in tall grass at the far end of the garden?

There are two distinctly separate fields the photographer can choose to operate in.

One requires a camera always at the ready, a good sense of occasion and rapid reflexes of a quick eye and quicker button finger, to catch that never to be repeated 'shot' of the dog in action, which was quite natural and never could be posed.

The other is taking really professional studies of dogs posed in the 'show stance'.

This requires an enormous amount of patience and considerable attention to detail. Only dogs of reasonably good anatomy are worthy of the effort. Spare the embarrassment of handing around a portfolio of pictures of a dog with gross shortcomings. Study the work of experts. Hans Leinhas, Heidelberg, is the leader in dog photography, with Karl Schickinger, Augsburg, a close second, with some others clicking away close at their elbows. For many years his monogram, HL, has put the seal of quality on the work of Herr Leinhas. His favourite studio is the Zwinger von der Neuzenlache, Viernheim, owned by August Ketterer. A spot on the grass there, has been hallowed by a long succession of illustrious dogs, posing to be recorded for posterity in photographs which are eagerly sought after around the world.

The essential requirements are a dog, a camera and a flat and perfectly level plot of grass, or hard top. Grass should be really short clipped, to show the paws. Seek a neutral background which does not intrude, distract, or absorb the outline of the dog. That is the stage and props required. Next we will set the stage and cast the actors for their roles, positioning them on the stage with reference to the numerals on a clock face.

The photographer is at '6.00 o'clock', with the

sun at 7.00, shining over the left shoulder, to minimise the dog's own shadow in front of him. The dog is led from 3.00 o'clock towards 9.00 o'clock and posed directly in front of the photographer in the show stance. For those who may not know what the correct show stance of the GSD is, the head is held so that the face and the top line of the neck are both at forty-five degrees to the ground, the forelegs are side by side and the dog is resting on the off, or farthest hind leg with the near hind leg extended rearwards. The position of this limb is crucial and the extension should never be overdone. The position is correct when metatarsal, bones of the foot, forms a perfectly perpendicular line to the ground. The handler should stay out of the frame and not be caught leering over the dog's back, it is the dog's day and should not be shared with anyone. Pushing the shoe under the far hock, forming a starting block and all other attempts to artificially improve the dog's anatomy, should be discouraged.

In addition to the technicalities of the instrument, the photographer has many adjustments to make. Lower the camera to the level of the dog, by getting into a kneeling position, equidistant from the dog's nose and tail, to minimise lens distortion. A forward position may disguise a small head by enlargement, but the rear end will be proportionally reduced. If possible catch just a hint of the off side foreleg, just to show the dog has got 4 legs. Almost fill the frame with dog, near side fore and hind paws lining up with the bottom, tip of nose near the left side and tips of the ears close to, but not touching the top of the frame. Pay special attention to the near side hock. Many handlers make the grievous mistake of over extending the hind leg, in the mistaken belief that it enhances angulation. It does nothing of the sort, because it is a distortion and not a natural stance of the dog. The hock should never be brought behind a true vertical line, which should line up with the side of the frame. There is nothing wrong with photographing dogs looking the other way, that is posed in the opposite direction, presenting the right side to the camera.

Pay special attention to facial expressions. A 'laughing' face looks best, denoting the dog is

happy and builds confidence in people, because a dog with his tongue lolling out has no intention of biting. On the other hand a dog with closed mouth looks very glum and wolfish. If the dog is not cooperating, take him for a brisk run and then pose him. That should do the trick. Never photograph a dog with his tongue hanging out of the side of his mouth, behind the canine tooth, for that looks revolting.

To get that little extra, something is needed to bring the dog 'alive', just as the shutter opens. A third person, someone the dog responds to, can be of great assistance. The stage position for this actor is 8.00 o'clock, with something to rustle, or drop, on a sign from the photographer, that will bring the dog alert, just at the instant the button is pressed. Getting the dog to turn his head about 30 degrees will produce a better head study than looking

straight ahead. Worst of all is, the photographer calling the dog and the dog turns his head 90 degrees looking straight into the lens. That's for a head study, only.

When the photographer has all those things drawn together and the button finger poised ready to expose the film, on a nod to the prompter the dog is attracted and the camera clicked, hopefully at the instant of intense interest shown by the dog. With good timing and a modicum of luck the result should be a masterpiece. But after so much preparation don't rely on one exposure. Take a few and choose the best, for no matter how many you take none will be identical, because the subject is a living creature. Success with your endeavours and maybe one day they will appear in the Zeitung.

44 DIXI

A fable from Germany, with more fact than fiction.

This is a synopsis of a story, told as a fable, about a dog she had bred which ends the excellent book, "Der Deutsche Schaeferhund", a Falken-Handbuch, by the late Ursula Foerster. In her time Ursula was the highest ranking woman in the echelons of the SV., with responsibility for training. I am proud to have made her acquaintance. From her I learned the neck grip, which I refer to as, "The daddy dog bite". Her book is so well illustrated as to be of great assistance, even without a knowledge of German, especially to those owners interested in advanced Schutzhund training.

"My name is Dixi vom Uhrstromtal. I am a female German Shepherd Dog and I work as a guide dog. I had a very happy puppyhood with my mother and played with my litter mates. I grew up with my lady owner and as she lived alone we became very close friends. Good times don't always last. One day my lady was taken away in an ambulance and somehow I knew she was never coming back. Naturally that made me very sad.

My lady's daughter took charge of me, but her circumstances prevented her keeping me. I was taken to a training school for guide dogs. There I was subjected to very rigorous testing before being admitted. Make no mistake about it, the training course is long and arduous, but I stuck at it and received my diploma as a fully qualified guide dog. Then a job opportunity came up. A couple were looking for a guide dog for their son. He had been involved in an accident and had lost his sight.

The young man had recovered from his other injuries but was very depressed and just existing, but not living life, would not come out of his room. He had broken off with his fiancée and refused to admit her. He spent his time moping around and weeping. When I licked his hand, trying to be friendly, he just pushed me away brusquely. Puzzled, I would go to my bed and lie, with my head resting on my paws, watching him. One day he stood up muttering and groped his way to the open window, which was a long way up from the ground outside. Even as puppies we have a fear of falling, so when he



Kelly assisting the disabled

started climbing out on the window ledge I knew it was not a safe way to leave the room.

In a single leap I bounded across the room and gripped his trousers between my teeth. I was unable to bark for help because my mouth was full of the seat of his pants, but I growled and hung on grimly. My young master's mother came running into the room and together we wrestled him in off the window ledge.

Things got very emotional as his mother embraced him and, after having a complete change of intent, he embraced her. He started to praise and stroke me, saying that I was a clever, clever girl. I got very embarrassed with all the praise and looked around for something to do.

I got my harness off the peg and pushed it against his leg. He strapped it on and I began to lead him around. Very slowly at first because he was awkward and unsure, but, as he gained confidence we went faster and farther and soon we were striding along the busy streets side by side. With his interest in life rekindled he resumed his studies.

Christmas came around and there was a knock on the door. When it was opened a young woman delivering presents stood there. She was the ex-fiancee. I gave her a good inspection and am glad to say I liked what I found. There was a joyful reunion of the couple, which was very exciting and made that a very good and happy Christmas.

My master finished his studies and got a job as a stenographer in our local Senate. Of course I go everywhere with him, which makes me very proud of my work. I have been to places where no other dogs are allowed. Best decorum must be maintained at all times, which is no problem for a lady of my good breeding. Even here in hygiene conscious Germany, we go into restaurants together. Then I creep under the table, to be out of the way.

My young master has since married his fiancée and now we all live as one happy family. That's all for now. When there is more news I'll let you know.

Yours, Dixi".

'And if they haven't died they are alive today', as all German fables end.

45 SV PEDIGREES

So many German Shepherd Dogs have been exported from Germany, over the past 25 years, that SV pedigrees are now frequently encountered. Nothing like them emanate from the other Kennel Clubs, for each is a mine of information about the individual dog.

Here is how to unlock the mine. An SV pedigree is a comprehensive document, running to four 27 x 20 cm pages. It is issued by and remains the property of the SV, who have certified its authenticity. The SV go to extremes to ensure the pedigree relates to the dog named on it. In addition to compulsory early notification of matings and ear tattooing of puppies, while still in the nest, DNA testing was introduced, around 1997, as further proof that the puppy is the progeny of the parents as stated. "DNA gepr." usually appears in reports next after the HD status, but should not be confused with that for it has nothing to do with Hip Dysplasia.

The colour of the paper is significant ; rote Ahnentafeln = pink pedigrees indicate that both parents and **all 4** grandparents were Koer- und Leistungszucht = Breed Surveyed and Performance qualified. Weisse papier Ahnentafeln = white paper pedigrees are issued where the ancestors are otherwise qualified, but in part are not all Koerzucht, for instance a grandparent was not Breed Surveyed.

The first statement made, at the top of page 1, is that this is a certificate of purity of breed and continues by stating the animal is Koer- und Leistungszucht, or merely Leistungszucht. If the dog the pedigree relates to is Angekoert = Breed Surveyed, that will be stated, either A1, or A 2, usually for a limited period of 1 or 2 years, during which time the animal may be used for breeding purposes. At the second time surveyed a very sound dog may have this period extended to lebenszeit = lifetime. That is all typed in the top right hand corner.

- Line 1. The name of the dog, training qualifications and show classification, if any.
 Line 2. Geschlect = Sex , either Ruede = male, or Hundin = female. Haarart, is likely to be Stockhaarig = normal coat.

- Line 3. Farbe und Abzeichen = colour and markings. Ref. SV codes on previous page.
 Line 4 Provides space for particular markings and the tattoo mark in the dogs right ear.
 Line 5. Wurfstag = Date of birth. Wurfjahr = Year of birth, in one long word.

The name and address of the breeder are on the next lines.

Inzucht auf = inbreeding on, is given, or ohne = none. Geschwister = sisters/litter mates. Their registered call names and coat colour codes are given.

Wurfstark = Litter full size (e.g. 4-3 would be 4 males and 3 females), Totegeborn = Born dead, Verendet = Killed off, Ammenaufzucht = Foster reared, number given, if any. (upping permitted litter size recently, from 6 to 8, will considerably reduce fostering).

Mid page. A declaration signed by the breeder. Below that a declaration by the official responsible for the SV Stud Book department. Finally the number allocated to the dog in the Schaeferhund Zucht SZ = Breed Register.

A statement that the SV has ratified this pedigree.

Page 2 is devoted to the parents and grandparents. At the top of each square, with the dog's full name, are given the registration number, years Breed Surveyed for, colour code and markings, working qualifications, best (to date) show ring grading.

Then an abbreviated Koerung report. A blank space indicates the dog was not surveyed, or may have been, but outside SV jurisdiction.

Litter mates are listed at the bottom, with colour codes and current ring grading.

Page 3 records the full names, registration numbers and Schutzhund qualifications of the 8 great grandparents and 16 great great grandparents. Some of the SV codes are down the right hand side and at the bottom corner, certification of the "a" stamp received.

Page 4 has spaces for change of ownership, which must be updated by the last owner, before handing the pedigree over to the new owner.

The rest of the page outlines the duties and responsibilities of breeders and owners.

Raum für Zuchtbuch- und körämtliche Vermerke:

Angekört 1986-87/Körkl. Ia



Eigentumswechsel (bei Abgabe vom Verkäufer des Hundes sofort einzutragen)		
1. am	4. 2. 1985	an Joachim Frank Viernheim
2. am	9. 6. 1985	an Martin, Cotter Irland
3. am	19	an
4. am	19	an
5. am	19	an
6. am	19	an

Unterschrift des Verkäufers:
A. Ketterer
 Joachim Frank

Beurteilungs- und Bewertungsheft ausgehändigt am 15. 8. 85 durch OG bzw. Leistungsrichter Heddesheim
 Unterschrift 10. Ketterer

Die Einschreibung der Aushändigung des Beurteilungs- u. Bewertungsheftes darf nur durch eine OG oder einen Leistungsrichter erfolgen.

Wichtig für angehende Züchter:

Die Zucht des Deutschen Schäferhundes ist nicht nur als eine Vermehrung der Rasse zu betrachten, sondern legt demjenigen, der sie mit dem in seinem Eigentum stehenden Tier betreiben will, eine Reihe von Verpflichtungen auf, die er unter Einschaltung des ortszuständigen Zuchtwarts, der bei der SV-HG gegen Portoerstattung zu erfragen ist, zu erfüllen hat. Nachfolgend die wesentlichsten Punkte aus der für alle Züchter von Deutschen Schäferhunden maßgeblichen Zuchtordnung:

- Gesunde, dem Körper und Wesen der Rasse entsprechende Aufzucht, Haltung und Fütterung.
- Vorführen des Junghundes im Alter von etwa 10 bis 12 Monaten (siehe beiliegendes Junghundbeurteilungsförmular).
- Ausbildung des Hundes unter fachmännischer Anleitung durch die OG des SV mit anschließender Ableistung einer Prüfung nach dem Alter des Hundes von mindestens 14 Monaten gemäß Prüfungsordnung, die zum Preise von DM 1.60 erhältlich ist.
- Vorführen des Hundes auf einer vom SV anerkannten Schau nach dem Alter des Tieres von mindestens 12 Monaten, wobei, um den Hund später zur Zucht verwenden zu können, eine Mindestbewertung „Gut“ erreicht werden muß.
- Früheste Zuchtverwendung (nach bestandener Prüfung und einer Schaubewertung „Gut“) bei Rüden mit 24 und bei Hündinnen mit 20 Monaten.
- Der Hündinneneigentümer und zugleich werdende Züchter muß beim Zuchtbuchamt des SV um Schutz eines Zwinger-namens eingeben.
- Sofort nach dem Werfen der Hündin ist der zuständige Zuchtwart zu verständigen, damit eine Besichtigung des Wurfes erfolgen und bei zu starken Würfen die Auswahl der zu lassenden Welpen vorgenommen werden kann.

- Einer Hündin dürfen in keinem Falle länger als 10 Tage mehr als sechs Welpen belassen werden.
- Wegen Zuhilfenahme einer Amme für überzählige Welpen muß der Zuchtwart befragt werden.
- Künstliche Aufzucht ist, gleich unter welchen Bedingungen, nicht zulässig.
- Der Züchter ist verpflichtet, dem Zuchtwart, der die Tätowierung der Welpen zu veranlassen hat, die Besichtigung des gesamten Wurfes nochmals vor Abgabe der Welpen im frühesten Alter von acht Wochen zu ermöglichen.
- Welpen müssen, noch bevor sie abgesetzt werden, im Inneren des rechten Ohres tätowiert werden.
- Der Züchter haftet mit seiner Unterschrift, daß alle im Wurf-meldeschein gemachten Angaben der Richtigkeit entsprechen.
- Der Züchter ist verpflichtet, die für den Wurf vom Zuchtbuchamt des SV erhaltenen Ahnentafeln der Jungtiere schriftlich zu unterzeichnen, den Eigentumswechsel einzutragen und unterschriftlich zu bestätigen und sofort an die Jung-tiereigentümer weiterzugeben.
- Die Übereinstimmung der Tätowiernummer im rechten Ohr des Hundes mit der in der Ahnentafel eingetragenen Tätowiernummer muß gewährleistet sein.
- Der Eigentumswechsel eines Junghundes ist, wenn dem Zuchtbuchamt nicht schon durch Wurfmeldeschein bekannt, unverzüglich unter genauer Anschriftsangabe des neuen Eigen-tümers mitzuteilen.

Es empfiehlt sich für jeden ernsthaften Schäferhundfreund, Mitglied des SV und einer OG zu werden, denn nur durch deren Beratung ist eine der Bedeutung des Deutschen Schäferhundes entsprechende Aufzucht, Haltung, Ausbildung und Zucht möglich.

Verein für Deutsche Schäferhunde (SV)
 Eingetragener Verein · Rechtsitz Augsburg · Gegründet am 22. April 1899
 Hauptgeschäftsstelle 8900 Augsburg 1, Beim Schnarrbrunnen 4-6

Zirka 83.000 Mitglieder
 Rund 1800 Ortsgruppen
 Allein maßgebender
 Zuchtverein der Rasse



Rasse-Echtheitszertifikat

Herausgegeben vom Verein für Deutsche Schäferhunde (SV) e. V., gegründet 1899
 Gründerverein der Rasse und für den Standard Deutscher Schäferhunde zuständig



Anerkannt von
 Verband für
 das Deutsche Hundewesen e. V.



Federation Cynologique
 Internationale



Weltunion der Vereine
 für Deutsche Schäferhunde

Körzucht-Leistungszucht-Ahnentafel

für den Deutschen Schäferhund Gildo von der Neuzenlache

Geschlecht: Rüde Haarart: stockhaarig
 Farbe und Abzeichen: schwarz-gelb
 Besondere Kennzeichen: Tätowier-Nr. M-E 6994
 Wurfart: 01. Oktober 1983 Wurfjahr: Neunzehnhundertdreiundachtzig
 Züchter: August Ketterer
 Anschrift: August-Bebelstr. 24, 6806 Viernheim-Ost

Inzucht auf:	Geschwister:
<u>Canto Arminius (3-4)</u>	<u>Grando sg Gerdi sg</u>
<u>Quanto Wienerau (4,5-4,3,5)</u>	<u>Giska sg Gundi sg</u>
<u>(C-Wurf Arminius, Canto-Cäsar, 3-3)</u>	
<u>(Liane Wienerau-Liane Wienerau, Gitta Asterplatz, 5-5,5)</u>	

Erläuterung über Wurfstärke: Wurfstärke 3,3 Totgeboren 1,0

Die Verwendung der Ahnentafel und der Eintragungen in ihr, die Anfertigung von Abschriften, Auszügen oder Übersetzungen in andere Zuchtbücher ist nur mit ausdrücklicher Genehmigung des SV zulässig. Eintragungen in die Ahnentafel dürfen nur vom Zuchtbuchamt des SV vorgenommen werden. Ausgenommen hiervon sind die Eintragungen des Eigentumswechsels und über Anhandigung des Beurteilungs- und Bewertungsheftes sowie Einschreibung der HD-Röntgenplatte. Die Ahnentafel ist bei Gültigkeit, wenn sie vom Züchter eigenhändig unterschrieben ist, sie gilt als Urkunde im juristischen Sinne! Wer Ahnentafeln fälscht oder mit solchem Mißbrauch handelt, wird vom SV strafrechtlich verfolgt. Die Ahnentafel ist der schriftliche Nachweis über Rasse-reinheit, Name und Abstammung des Hundes, sie gehört somit zum Hund und ist beim Verkauf dem neuen Eigentümer unbedingt auszuhändigen. Beim Ein-geben des Hundes ist sie an das Zuchtbuchamt einzuliefern.

Bemerkungen:



Für die Richtigkeit vorstehender Angaben: (Unterschrift des Züchters)

A. Ketterer

Eintragungs- und Prüfungsbestätigung: Der oben bezeichnete Deutsche Schäferhund ist in das Zuchtbuch für Deutsche Schäferhunde (SZ) eingetragen worden. Die Ahnentafel wurde ausgefertigt vom Verein für Deutsche Schäferhunde (SV), Mitglied des Verbandes für das Deutsche Hundewesen (VDH) in der Fédération Cynologique Internationale (F.C.I.). Die Abstammungsangaben sind nachgeprüft, und ihre Richtigkeit wird hiermit bestätigt.

SZ Band 83 SZ Nr. 1597205
 Augsburg, den 01. Februar 1984

Das Zuchtbuchamt des SV
 i. A.:

[Signature]

I. Eltern	II. Groß-Eltern	III. Urgroß-Eltern	IV. Ururgroß-Eltern	Abkürzungen und Zeichen
<p>1</p> <p>Vater: Tell vom Großen Sand 1525173 SchHIII +1984-85</p> <p>"a" zuerk. ZB: V-A</p> <p>Farbe und Abz.: sgAM</p> <p>KB: Groß, sehr kraft- und gehaltvoll, durch ausgesprochene Trockenheit und Festigkeit ins Auge fallend, sehr guter Ausdruck, sehr gutes Gepräge. Gute Vorhand, betonter Widerrist, gute Rückenlinie, sehr fester Rücken, sehr gut gewinkelte Hinterhand, genügend lange Kruppe. Korrekte Trittfolge. Ausgreifende, sehr kraftvolle Gänge aus festem Rücken. Sicheres Wesen, Härte, Mut und Kampftrieb ausgeprägt.</p> <p>Geschw.: Tasso sgAM/+Terry sgAM SchHI/Tim sgA/+Tom sgAM SchHII,V/SchHIII/Jalk sgAM/+Tina sgAM SchHIII,V-A</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Sonny vom Badener-Land 1391805 SchHIII</p> <p>sgA +Lebenszeit ZB: V "a" zuerk.</p> <p>KB: Mittelgroß, kräftig. Gute Rückenlinie, hoher Widerrist, gute Kruppe, Vor- und Hinterhand sehr gut gewinkelt, gute Vor- und Unterbrust. Guter Ausdruck, kraftvolle Keulen. Fließende Gänge mit gutem Vortritt und gutem Nachschub. Sicheres Wesen, Härte, Mut und Kampftrieb ausgeprägt. WA 80: Sehr gutes Gepräge.</p> <p>Geschw.: Santo sgA (langsth)/Senta sgA, SG/+Sissy sgA SchHI, V/</p>	<p>+Canto von Arminius</p> <p>1277394 SchHIII</p> <p>+Luna vom Eidechsenbrunnen</p> <p>1249649 SchHIII</p>	<p>+Canto von der Wienerau 1176588 SchHIII</p> <p>+Frigga von Ecclesia Nova 1222617 SchHI</p> <p>+Onyx vom Pilgersberg 1186272 SchHII</p> <p>+Cora vom Haus Anuschka 1134746 SchHI</p> <p>+Quanto von der Wienerau 1135695 SchHII</p> <p>+Jara v. Sinnenberg SMB 192560</p> <p>+Hasso von der grünen Laterne 1218203 SchHIII FH</p> <p>+Gisa vom Heiligenrech 1308367 SchHII</p>	<p>Abkürzungen und Zeichen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ZB = andauernd KB = Kämpferstellung AR = "Auffassung" KR = Kurbenheit <p>Farbe und Abzeichen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A = abgelesen AM = Ausmaß B = Braun BR = Brust D = Decke F = Fell F = Farbe G = gelb gestr = gestrichelt gew = gewaschen gr = grau grg = grau gelblich h = hell s = schwarz sch = silbergrau w = weiß Kopfabz = Kopfzeichen L = Läufe M = Masse P = Platen S = Rücken b = Seiten <p>Ausbildungs-Kennzeichen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RDHLE = Rennschlepp-Dienstleistung II RIH = Rittschlepp DL = Dauerlinie DFH = Dienstleistung II FIH = Fährschlepp HGH = Heiden-Gebrauchshund INT = Internationaler Frühlingsklasse LDH = Laternen PLH = Präludium II, III PFH = Fährschlepp-Dienstleistung II PSH = Präludium PSPLH = Präludium-Schlepp-Dienstleistung II SCHLEH = Schlepp-Dienstleistung II ZHLH = Zuchtwahl II <p>Bewertungsnoten:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VA = Verräuchelt V = Aussehen VG = Vortritt SG = Schritt G = Gut A = Ausreichend M = Mangelhaft U = Ungenügend <p>Stempel HD-Tierarzt: Untersuchung auf HD Tätw. Nr. 4-E 6994 Datum 6.4.84</p> <p>TIERÄRZTLICHE PRAXIS GEMEINSCHAFT Dr. H. BRUCH Am Alten Markt Bismarck-Platz 1000 Berlin</p> <p>„a“ zuerkant Bef. normal SV-Zuchtbuchamt V. V. V.</p>
<p>2</p> <p>Mutter: Ulme von der Neuzenlache 1486637 SchHIII FH +1983-84</p> <p>"a" zuerk. ZB: V</p> <p>Farbe und Abz.: sg</p> <p>KB: Mittelgroß, sehr ausdrucksvoll, gutes Gepräge, gute Gebäudeharmonie. Guter Widerrist, guter Rücken, gute Gesamtfestigkeit. Vorne und hinten sehr gut gewinkelt, gute Brustanlage. Sehr gute, geräumige Gänge mit kraftvollem Vortritt und Nachschub. Nervenfest, Härte, Mut und Kampftrieb ausgeprägt.</p> <p>Geschw.: Ulfe sg, SG/Umsa sg/Urfu sg/Ursa sg/Uta sg</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Jenny vom Großen Sand 1427244 SchHIII</p> <p>sgAM +Lebenszeit ZB: V "a" zuerk.</p> <p>KB: Groß, sehr kraft- und gehaltvoll, in guten Verhältnis gebaut, fest und trocken. Vorhand noch gut, Hinterhand sehr gut gewinkelt, ausgeprägte Brustbildung, betonter Widerrist, fester Rücken, etwas kurze Kruppe, gerade Front. Genügend straffe Fesselung. Gerade Trittfolge, ausgreifende, kraftvolle Gänge aus festem Rücken.</p> <p>Geschw.: Sicheres Wesen, Kampftrieb, Mut und Härte ausgeprägt. Jacco sgAM/+Jack sgAM SchHIII, G/Jago sgAM/SchHIII/Jalk sgAM/Joll sgAM/Jonny sgAM/Jory sgAM SchHIII/Jola sgAM, G/ FN</p>	<p>+Lasso di Val Sole</p> <p>1578829 SchHIII</p> <p>+Lidi vom Heiligenrech</p> <p>1308367 SchHII</p>	<p>+Cäsar von Arminius</p> <p>1277393 SchHIII FH</p> <p>+Panja vom Bergischen Tal</p> <p>1308525 SchHII</p>	<p>+Canto von der Wienerau 1176588 SchHII</p> <p>+Frigga von Ecclesia Nova 1222617 SchHI</p> <p>+Arko vom Cellerland 1169323 SchHIII FH</p> <p>+Connie vom Krienssteinweg 1155846 SchHII</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Mutter: Ulme von der Neuzenlache 1486637 SchHIII FH +1983-84</p> <p>"a" zuerk. ZB: V</p> <p>Farbe und Abz.: sg</p> <p>KB: Mittelgroß, sehr ausdrucksvoll, gutes Gepräge, gute Gebäudeharmonie. Guter Widerrist, guter Rücken, gute Gesamtfestigkeit. Vorne und hinten sehr gut gewinkelt, gute Brustanlage. Sehr gute, geräumige Gänge mit kraftvollem Vortritt und Nachschub. Nervenfest, Härte, Mut und Kampftrieb ausgeprägt.</p> <p>Geschw.: Ulfe sg, SG/Umsa sg/Urfu sg/Ursa sg/Uta sg</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Perla von der Neuzenlache 1429373 SchHI</p> <p>sg +Lebenszeit ZB: V "a" zuerk.</p> <p>KB: Groß, kraft- und gehaltvoll, gestreckt. Hoher Widerrist, gute Linie, sehr gute Länge und Lage der Kruppe, gute Winkelungen, gute Brustverhältnisse. Ellenbogen dürften geschlossener sein. Hinten etwas eng tretend, raumschaffende Gänge mit kraftvollem Nachschub. Sicheres Wesen, Härte, Mut und Kampftrieb ausgeprägt.</p> <p>Geschw.: Pele sg/Panda sg (langsth.)</p>	<p>+Kay vom Sürenheider See</p> <p>1334541 SchHIII FH</p> <p>+Flanke vom Haus Beck</p> <p>1239975 SchHI</p>	<p>+Canto von der Wienerau 1176588 SchHII</p> <p>+Frigga von Ecclesia Nova 1222617 SchHI</p> <p>+Hasso von der grünen Laterne 1218203 SchHIII FH</p> <p>+Gisa vom Heiligenrech 1308367 SchHII</p> <p>+Canto von der Wienerau 1176588 SchHII</p> <p>+Frigga von Ecclesia Nova 1222617 SchHI</p> <p>+Quanto von der Wienerau 1135695 SchHII</p> <p>+Case vom Asterplatz 1158025 SchHI</p>	<p>Abkürzungen und Zeichen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ZB = andauernd KB = Kämpferstellung AR = "Auffassung" KR = Kurbenheit <p>Farbe und Abzeichen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A = abgelesen AM = Ausmaß B = Braun BR = Brust D = Decke F = Fell F = Farbe G = gelb gestr = gestrichelt gew = gewaschen gr = grau grg = grau gelblich h = hell s = schwarz sch = silbergrau w = weiß Kopfabz = Kopfzeichen L = Läufe M = Masse P = Platen S = Rücken b = Seiten <p>Ausbildungs-Kennzeichen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RDHLE = Rennschlepp-Dienstleistung II RIH = Rittschlepp DL = Dauerlinie DFH = Dienstleistung II FIH = Fährschlepp HGH = Heiden-Gebrauchshund INT = Internationaler Frühlingsklasse LDH = Laternen PLH = Präludium II, III PFH = Fährschlepp-Dienstleistung II PSH = Präludium PSPLH = Präludium-Schlepp-Dienstleistung II SCHLEH = Schlepp-Dienstleistung II ZHLH = Zuchtwahl II <p>Bewertungsnoten:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VA = Verräuchelt V = Aussehen VG = Vortritt SG = Schritt G = Gut A = Ausreichend M = Mangelhaft U = Ungenügend <p>Stempel HD-Tierarzt: Untersuchung auf HD Tätw. Nr. 4-E 6994 Datum 6.4.84</p> <p>TIERÄRZTLICHE PRAXIS GEMEINSCHAFT Dr. H. BRUCH Am Alten Markt Bismarck-Platz 1000 Berlin</p> <p>„a“ zuerkant Bef. normal SV-Zuchtbuchamt V. V. V.</p>

46 SV CODES

ABKURZUNGEN und ZEICHEN = ABBREVIATIONS and MARKS

+	Angekoert	Surveyed (breed)
ZB	Zuchtbewertung	Grade awarded in show ring
"a"	"a" Zuerkannt	Stamp for hips
KB	Koerbuch	Annual, containing all Breed Survey Reports that year.
also	Koerbericht	Breed Survey Report

FARBE und ABZEICHEN COLOUR and MARKINGS

Aalstr	Aalstrich	Eel stripe	F	Fang	Muzzle
b	braun	brown	Br.	Brust	Chest
D	Decke	Mantle	d	dunkel	dark
gestr.	gestromt	dappled	gew	gewolkt	clouded
ggr	gelbgrau	yellow on grey	gr	grau	grey
grg	graugelb	grey on yellow	h	hell	light/pale
s	schwarz	black	slgr	silbergrau	silver grey
w	weiss	white	Kopfanz..	Kopfanzeichen	
L	Laufe	Limbs		/Head markings	
M	Maske	Mask	Pf	Pfoten	Paws
R	Rucken	Back	S	Sattel	Saddle

BEWERTUNGSNOTEN = SHOW RING CLASSIFICATIONS

Sieger		Winner /Victor
VA	Vorzueglich Auslese	Excellent Select
V	Vorzueglich	Excellent
SG	Sehr gut	Very Good
G	Gut	Good
Ausr	Ausreichend	Sufficient
M	Mangelhaft	Faulty
U	Ungenuegend	Insufficient
e.z.	entschuldigt zurueckgezogen	excused and withdrawn.

AUSBILDUNGS -KENNZEICHEN = TRAINING QUALIFICATIONS.

SchH I	Schutzhund I	Protection Dog grade 1
SchH II	Schutzhund II	Protection Dog grade 2
SchH III	Schutzhund III	Protection Dog grade 3
ZH I	Zollhund I	Customs Dog grade 1
ZH II	Zollhund II	Customs Dog grade 2
FH I	Fahrtenhund I	Tracking Dog grade 1
FH II	Fahrtenhund II	Tracking Dog grade 2
BiH	Blindenfuehrhund	Guide Dog for the Blind
HGH	Herden-gebrauchshund	Herding Utility Dog
KrH	Kriegshund	War Dog
LH	Lavinnenhund	Avalanche Rescue Dog
PH	Polizeihund	Police Dog
SH	Sanitaetshund	Red Cross Rescue Dog

ADDENDUM

With the proofs corrected and ALL ABOUT GERMAN SHEPHERD DOGS about to go into print, afforded an opportunity to relax, after a couple of years of unbroken stints, sometimes without stops for food, of up to 10 hours and some all night sessions, to catch up on what's being happening during the past few years, by surfing the net, for the first time.

Went straight for the SV. Entered Oceanfree. In FIND typed in; schaeferhund.de and was presented with a menu of 17 pages, with contents something like this;

- 1 Press release + Vorstand message + Application for Membership Forms in German & ENGLISH.
- 2 Competition results, placings.
- 3 DER HD-ZUCHTWERT = HD-BREED WORTH press
SUCHE HD-ZUCHTWERT and insert dog's
CALL NAME + KENNEL SUFFIX (without preceding words)
+ SZ NUMBER, to get the Breed Worth rating of that dog. ↪
- 4 Messages from the VORSTAND = Committee;
May be read on Acrobat read, or downloaded to your PC.
- 5 Repeat of 4.
- 6 Looks like a repeat of page 1
- 7 ALL the placings of the dogs at the 1999 Sieger Show in Karlsruhe.
Click on each Class, eg GHKLR = ADULT MALE CLASS.
- 8 World Union of Shepherddog Clubs WUSV, Master Championship
Team results.
- 9 Team results continued
- 10 ZUCHTWERTSCHAETZUNG=HD - Breed worth evaluation for HD.
Click INFO, bottom left and scroll down through the German text to Very lengthy explanation of this
genetic program
IN ENGLISH.
- 11 SV Home Page.
- 12 What the German Shepherd Dog IS.
- 13 How the SV is structured.
- 14 Kalender of Events.
- 15 Index of Icons.
- 16 Membership entry Form explanatory, would appear to apply only in Germany.
- 17 Forthcoming major Event :
Ort = Location
Zimmerresevierung = Room Reservations etc.

Very briefly, for those without access to the Internet,

ZUCHTWERTSCHAETZUNG=HD -

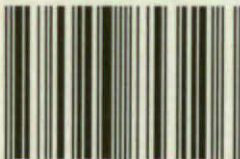
Breed worth evaluation for HD is, $HD = \text{Breed Average} + \text{Breed Value of this animal} + \text{Variation of Sex} + \text{Other Influences}$. In this equation the Breed Average, the Breed Value and the Sex Effect are formulated as the "cause" of HD. In the SV 450,000 equations formulated for 450,000 animals (the number x-rayed), with the 450,000 Unknown Breed Values. Then some Supplementary Conditions (stipulations or prerequisites) on the lines of Inheritance and Heredity are mathematically formulated. Following that, the computer has to solve 450,000 equations with the 450,000 Unknown Factors. The answers are the Assessed (estimated) Breed Values. All of that means there is no formula whereby a dog's Breed Value can be worked out in isolation.

A Breed Value of 100 would be average and above that would be poor, for that dog.

Still getting my head around that one.



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